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NOVEL GENES ENCODING PROTEINS HAVING DIAGNOSTIC, PREVENTIVE, THERAPEUTIC, AND OTHER USES

Background of the Invention

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The molecular bases underlying many human and animal physiological states (e.g. diseased and homeostatic states of various tissues) remain unknown. Nonetheless, it is well understood that these states result from interactions among the proteins and nucleic acids present in the cells of the relevant tissues. In the past, the complexity of biological systems overwhelmed the ability of practitioners to understand the molecular interactions giving rise to normal and abnormal physiological states. More recently, though, the techniques of molecular biology, transgenic and null mutant animal production, computational biology, pharmacogenomics, and the like have enabled practitioners to discern the role and importance of individual genes and proteins in particular physiological states.

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Knowledge of the sequences and other properties of genes (particularly including the portions of genes encoding proteins) and the proteins encoded thereby enables the practitioner to design and screen agents which will affect, prospectively or retrospectively, the physiological state of an animal tissue in a favorable way. Such knowledge also enables the practitioner, by detecting the levels of gene expression and protein production, to diagnose the current physiological state of a tissue or animal and to predict such physiological states in the future. This knowledge furthermore enables the practitioner to identify and design molecules which bind with the polynucleotides and proteins, *in vitro*, *in vivo*, or both.

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The present invention provides sequence information for polynucleotides derived from human and murine genes and for proteins encoded thereby, and thus enables the practitioner to assess, predict, and affect the physiological state of various human and murine tissues.

Summary of the Invention

The present invention is based, at least in part, on the discovery of a variety of human and murine cDNA molecules which encode proteins which are herein designated TANGO 202, TANGO 234, TANGO 265, TANGO 273, TANGO 286, TANGO 294, and INTERCEPT 296. These seven proteins, fragments thereof, derivatives thereof, and variants thereof are collectively referred to herein as the polypeptides of the invention or the proteins of the invention. Nucleic acid molecules encoding polypeptides of the invention are collectively referred to as nucleic acids of the invention.

The nucleic acids and polypeptides of the present invention are useful as modulating agents in regulating a variety of cellular processes. Accordingly, in one aspect, the present invention provides isolated nucleic acid molecules encoding a polypeptide of the invention or a biologically active portion thereof. The present invention also provides nucleic acid molecules which are suitable as primers or hybridization probes for the detection of nucleic acids encoding a polypeptide of the invention.

The invention also features nucleic acid molecules which are at least 40% (or 50%, 60%, 70%, 80%, 90%, 95%, or 98%) identical to the nucleotide sequence of any of SEQ ID NOs: 1, 2, 9, 10, 17, 18, 25, 26, 33, 34, 45, 46, 53, 54, 67, 68, 72, 73, or the nucleotide sequence of a cDNA clone deposited with ATCC as one of Accession numbers 207219, 207184, 207228, 207185, 207220, and 207221 ("a cDNA of a clone deposited as ATCC 207219, 207184, 207228, 207185, 207220, or 207221"), or a complement thereof.

The invention features nucleic acid molecules which include a fragment of at least 15 (25, 40, 60, 80, 100, 150, 200, 250, 300, 350, 400, 450, 550, 650, 700, 800, 900, 1000, 1200, 1400, 1600, 1800, 2000, 2200, 2400, 2600, 2800, 3000, 3500, 4000, 4500, or 4928) consecutive nucleotide residues of any of SEQ ID NOs: 1, 2, 9, 10, 17, 18, 25, 26, 33, 34, 45, 46, 53, 54, 67, 68, 72, 73, or the nucleotide sequence of a cDNA of a clone deposited as ATCC 207219, 207184, 207228, 207185, 207220, or 207221, or a complement thereof.

5 The invention also features nucleic acid molecules which include a nucleotide sequence encoding a protein having an amino acid sequence that is at least 50% (or 60%, 70%, 80%, 90%, 95%, or 98%) identical to the amino acid sequence of any of SEQ ID NOs: 3-8, 11-16, 19-24, 27-32, 35-44, 47-52, 55-66, 69, 74, or the amino acid sequence encoded by a cDNA of a clone deposited as ATCC 207219, 207184, 207228, 207185, 207220, or 207221, or a complement thereof.

10 In preferred embodiments, the nucleic acid molecules have the nucleotide sequence of any of SEQ ID NOs: 1, 2, 9, 10, 17, 18, 25, 26, 33, 34, 45, 46, 53, 54, 67, 68, 72, 73, or the nucleotide sequence of a cDNA of a clone deposited as ATCC 207219, 207184, 207228, 207185, 207220, or 207221.

15 Also within the invention are nucleic acid molecules which encode a fragment of a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of any of SEQ ID NOs: 3-8, 11-16, 19-24, 27-32, 35-44, 47-52, 55-66, 69, 74, or the amino acid sequence encoded by a cDNA of a clone deposited as ATCC 207219, 207184, 207228, 207185, 207220, or 207221, the fragment including at least 8 (10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 40, 50, 75, 100, 125, 150, or 200) consecutive amino acids of any of SEQ ID NOs: 3-8, 11-16, 19-24, 27-32, 35-44, 47-52, 55-66, 69, 74, or the amino acid sequence encoded by a cDNA of a clone deposited as ATCC 207219, 207184, 207228, 207185, 207220, or 207221.

20 The invention includes nucleic acid molecules which encode a naturally occurring allelic variant of a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of any of SEQ ID NOs: 3-8, 11-16, 19-24, 27-32, 35-44, 47-52, 55-66, 69, 74, or the amino acid sequence encoded by a cDNA of a clone deposited as ATCC 207219, 207184, 207228, 207185, 207220, or 207221, wherein the nucleic acid molecule hybridizes under stringent conditions to a nucleic acid molecule having a nucleic acid sequence encoding any of SEQ ID NOs: 1, 2, 9, 10, 17, 18, 25, 26, 33, 34, 45, 46, 53, 54, 67, 68, 72, 73, or the nucleotide sequence of a cDNA of a clone deposited as ATCC 207219, 207184, 207228, 207185, 207220, or 207221, or a complement thereof.

25 Also within the invention are isolated polypeptides or proteins having an amino acid sequence that is at least about 50%, preferably 60%, 75%, 90%, 95%, or

98% identical to the amino acid sequence of any of SEQ ID NOs: 3-8, 11-16, 19-24, 27-32, 35-44, 47-52, 55-66, 69, and 74.

Also within the invention are isolated polypeptides or proteins which are encoded by a nucleic acid molecule having a nucleotide sequence that is at least about 40%, preferably 50%, 75%, 85%, or 95% identical the nucleic acid sequence encoding any of SEQ ID NOs: 3-8, 11-16, 19-24, 27-32, 35-44, 47-52, 55-66, 69, 74, and isolated polypeptides or proteins which are encoded by a nucleic acid molecule consisting of the nucleotide sequence which hybridizes under stringent hybridization conditions to a nucleic acid molecule having the nucleotide sequence of any of SEQ ID NOs: 1, 2, 9, 10, 17, 18, 25, 26, 33, 34, 45, 46, 53, 54, 67, 68, 72, and 73.

Also within the invention are polypeptides which are naturally occurring allelic variants of a polypeptide that includes the amino acid sequence of any of SEQ ID NOs: 3-8, 11-16, 19-24, 27-32, 35-44, 47-52, 55-66, 69, 74, or the amino acid sequence encoded by a cDNA of a clone deposited as ATCC 207219, 207184, 207228, 207185, 207220, or 207221, wherein the polypeptide is encoded by a nucleic acid molecule which hybridizes under stringent conditions to a nucleic acid molecule having the nucleotide sequence of any of SEQ ID NOs: 1, 2, 9, 10, 17, 18, 25, 26, 33, 34, 45, 46, 53, 54, 67, 68, 317, 319, or a complement thereof.

The invention also features nucleic acid molecules that hybridize under stringent conditions to a nucleic acid molecule having the nucleotide sequence of any of SEQ ID NOs: 1, 2, 9, 10, 17, 18, 25, 26, 33, 34, 45, 46, 53, 54, 67, 68, 72, 73, or the nucleotide sequence of a cDNA of a clone deposited as ATCC 207219, 207184, 207228, 207185, 207220, or 207221 or a complement thereof. In other embodiments, the nucleic acid molecules are at least 15 (25, 40, 60, 80, 100, 150, 200, 250, 300, 350, 400, 450, 550, 650, 700, 800, 900, 1000, 1200, 1400, 1600, 1800, 2000, 2200, 2400, 2600, 2800, 3000, 3500, 4000, 4500, or 4928) nucleotides in length and hybridize under stringent conditions to a nucleic acid molecule having the nucleotide sequence of any of SEQ ID NOs: 1, 2, 9, 10, 17, 18, 25, 26, 33, 34, 45, 46, 53, 54, 67, 68, 72, 73, or the nucleotide sequence of a cDNA of a clone deposited as ATCC 207219, 207184, 207228, 207185, 207220, or 207221, or a complement thereof. In some embodiments,

the isolated nucleic acid molecules encode a cytoplasmic, transmembrane, extracellular, or other domain of a polypeptide of the invention. In other embodiments, the invention provides an isolated nucleic acid molecule which is antisense to the coding strand of a nucleic acid of the invention.

5 Another aspect of the invention provides vectors, e.g., recombinant expression vectors, comprising a nucleic acid molecule of the invention. In another embodiment, the invention provides isolated host cells, e.g., mammalian and non-mammalian cells, containing such a vector or a nucleic acid of the invention. The invention also provides methods for producing a polypeptide of the invention by
10 culturing, in a suitable medium, a host cell of the invention containing a recombinant expression vector encoding a polypeptide of the invention such that the polypeptide of the invention is produced.

Another aspect of this invention features isolated or recombinant proteins and polypeptides of the invention. Preferred proteins and polypeptides possess
15 at least one biological activity possessed by the corresponding naturally-occurring human polypeptide. An activity, a biological activity, and a functional activity of a polypeptide of the invention refers to an activity exerted by a protein or polypeptide of the invention on a responsive cell as determined *in vivo*, or *in vitro*, according to standard techniques. Such activities can be a direct activity, such as an association with
20 or an enzymatic activity on a second protein or an indirect activity, such as a cellular processes mediated by interaction of the protein with a second protein.

By way of example, TANGO 202 exhibits the ability to affect growth, proliferation, survival, differentiation, and activity of human hematopoietic cells (e.g. bone marrow stromal cells) and fetal cells. TANGO 202 modulates cellular binding to
25 one or more mediators, modulates proteolytic activity *in vivo*, modulates developmental processes, and modulates cell growth, proliferation, survival, differentiation, and activity. Thus, TANGO 202 can be used to prevent, diagnose, or treat disorders relating to aberrant cellular protease activity, inappropriate interaction (or non-
interaction) of cells with mediators, inappropriate development, and blood and
30 hematopoietic cell-related disorders. Exemplary disorders for which TANGO 202 is

useful include immune disorders, infectious diseases, auto-immune disorders, vascular and cardiovascular disorders, disorders related to mal-expression of growth factors, cancers, hematological disorders, various cancers, birth defects, developmental defects, and the like.

Further by way of example, TANGO 234 exhibits the ability to affect growth, proliferation, survival, differentiation, and activity of human lung, hematopoietic, and fetal cells and of (e.g. bacterial or fungal) cells and viruses which infect humans. TANGO 234 modulates growth, proliferation, survival, differentiation, and activity of gamma delta T cells, for example. Furthermore, TANGO 234 modulates cholesterol deposition on human arterial walls, and is involved in uptake and metabolism of low density lipoprotein and regulation of serum cholesterol levels. Thus, TANGO 234 can be used to affect development and persistence of atherogenesis and arteriosclerosis, as well as other vascular and cardiovascular disorders. Other exemplary disorders for which TANGO 234 is useful include immune development disorders and disorders involving generation and persistence of an immune response to bacterial, fungal, and viral infections.

Still further by way of example, TANGO 265 modulates growth and regeneration of neuronal and epithelial tissues, and guides neuronal axon development. TANGO 265 is a transmembrane protein which mediates cellular interaction with cells, molecules and structures (e.g. extracellular matrix) in the extracellular environment. TANGO 265 is therefore involved in growth, organization, and adhesion of tissues and the cells which constitute those tissues. Furthermore, TANGO 265 modulates growth, proliferation, survival, differentiation, and activity of neuronal cells and immune system cells. Thus, TANGO 265 can be used, for example, to prevent, diagnose, or treat disorders characterized by aberrant organization or development of a tissue or organ, for guiding neural axon development, for modulating differentiation of cells of the immune system, for modulating cytokine production by cells of the immune system, for modulating reactivity of cells of the immune system toward cytokines, for

modulating initiation and persistence of an inflammatory response, and for modulating proliferation of epithelial cells.

Yet further by way of example, TANGO 273 protein mediates one or more physiological responses of cells to bacterial infection, e.g., by mediating one or more of detection of bacteria in a tissue in which it is expressed, movement of cells with relation to sites of bacterial infection, production of biological molecules which inhibit bacterial infection, and production of biological molecules which alleviate cellular or other physiological damage wrought by bacterial infection. TANGO 273, a transmembrane protein, is also involved in transmembrane signal transduction, and therefore mediates transmission of signals between the extracellular and intracellular environments of cells. TANGO 273 mediates regulation of cell growth and proliferation, endocytosis, activation of respiratory burst, and other physiological processes triggered by transmission of a signal via a protein with which TANGO 273 interacts. The compositions and methods of the invention can therefore be used to prevent, diagnose, and treat disorders involving one or more physiological activities mediated by TANGO 273 protein. Such disorders include, for example, various bone-related disorders such as metabolic, homeostatic, and developmental bone disorders (e.g. osteoporosis, various cancers, skeletal development disorders, bone fragility and the like), disorders caused by or related to bacterial infection, and disorders characterized by aberrant transmembrane signal transduction by TANGO 273.

As an additional example, TANGO 286 protein is involved in lipid-binding physiological processes such as lipid transport, metabolism, serum lipid particle regulation, host antimicrobial defensive mechanisms, and the like. Thus, the compositions and methods of the invention can therefore be used to prevent, diagnose, and treat disorders involving one or more physiological activities mediated by TANGO 286 protein. Such disorders include, for example, lipid transport disorders, lipid metabolism disorders, obesity, disorders of serum lipid particle regulation, disorders involving insufficient or inappropriate host antimicrobial defensive mechanisms, vasculitis, bronchiectasis, LPS-related disorders such as shock, disseminated

intravascular coagulation, anemia, thrombocytopenia, adult respiratory distress syndrome, renal failure, liver disease, and disorders associated with Gram negative bacterial infections, such as bacteremia, endotoxemia, sepsis, and the like.

Further by way of example, TANGO 294 protein is involved in
facilitating absorption and metabolism of fat. Thus, the compositions and methods of the invention can therefore be used to prevent, diagnose, and treat disorders involving one or more physiological activities mediated by TANGO 294 protein. Such disorders include, for example, inadequate expression of gastric/pancreatic lipase, cystic fibrosis, exocrine pancreatic insufficiency, medical treatments which alter fat absorption, obesity, and the like.

As another example, INTERCEPT 296 protein is involved in physiological processes related to disorders of the human lung and esophagus. Thus, the compositions and methods of the invention can be used to prevent, diagnose, and treat these disorders. Such disorders include, for example, various cancers, bronchitis, cystic fibrosis, respiratory infections (e.g. influenza, bronchiolitis, pneumonia, and tuberculosis), asthma, emphysema, chronic bronchitis, bronchiectasis, pulmonary edema, pleural effusion, pulmonary embolus, adult and infant respiratory distress syndromes, heartburn, and gastric reflux esophageal disease.

In one embodiment, a polypeptide of the invention has an amino acid sequence sufficiently identical to an identified domain of a polypeptide of the invention. As used herein, the term "sufficiently identical" refers to a first amino acid or nucleotide sequence which contains a sufficient or minimum number of identical or equivalent (e.g., with a similar side chain) amino acid residues or nucleotides to a second amino acid or nucleotide sequence such that the first and second amino acid or nucleotide sequences have a common domain and/or common functional activity. For example, amino acid or nucleotide sequences which contain a common domain having about 65% identity, preferably 75% identity, more preferably 85%, 95%, or 98% identity are defined herein as sufficiently identical.

In one embodiment, the isolated polypeptide of the invention lacks both a transmembrane and a cytoplasmic domain. In another embodiment, the polypeptide lacks both a transmembrane domain and a cytoplasmic domain and is soluble under physiological conditions.

5 The polypeptides of the present invention, or biologically active portions thereof, can be operably linked to a heterologous amino acid sequence to form fusion proteins. The invention further features antibody substances that specifically bind a polypeptide of the invention such as monoclonal or polyclonal antibodies, antibody fragments, single-chain antibodies, and the like. In addition, the polypeptides of the
10 invention or biologically active portions thereof can be incorporated into pharmaceutical compositions, which optionally include pharmaceutically acceptable carriers. These antibody substances can be made, for example, by providing the polypeptide of the invention to an immunocompetent vertebrate and thereafter harvesting blood or serum from the vertebrate.

15 In another aspect, the present invention provides methods for detecting the presence of the activity or expression of a polypeptide of the invention in a biological sample by contacting the biological sample with an agent capable of detecting an indicator of activity such that the presence of activity is detected in the biological sample.

20 In another aspect, the invention provides methods for modulating activity of a polypeptide of the invention comprising contacting a cell with an agent that modulates (inhibits or enhances) the activity or expression of a polypeptide of the invention such that activity or expression in the cell is modulated. In one embodiment, the agent is an antibody that specifically binds to a polypeptide of the invention.

25 In another embodiment, the agent modulates expression of a polypeptide of the invention by modulating transcription, splicing, or translation of an mRNA encoding a polypeptide of the invention. In yet another embodiment, the agent is a nucleic acid molecule having a nucleotide sequence that is antisense with respect to the coding strand of an mRNA encoding a polypeptide of the invention.

5 The present invention also provides methods to treat a subject having a disorder characterized by aberrant activity of a polypeptide of the invention or aberrant expression of a nucleic acid of the invention by administering an agent which is a modulator of the activity of a polypeptide of the invention or a modulator of the expression of a nucleic acid of the invention to the subject. In one embodiment, the modulator is a protein of the invention. In another embodiment, the modulator is a nucleic acid of the invention. In other embodiments, the modulator is a peptide, peptidomimetic, or other small molecule.

10 The present invention also provides diagnostic assays for identifying the presence or absence of a genetic lesion or mutation characterized by at least one of: (i) aberrant modification or mutation of a gene encoding a polypeptide of the invention, (ii) mis-regulation of a gene encoding a polypeptide of the invention, and (iii) aberrant post-translational modification of a polypeptide of the invention wherein a wild-type form of the gene encodes a polypeptide having the activity of the polypeptide of the invention.

15 In another aspect, the invention provides a method for identifying a compound that binds to or modulates the activity of a polypeptide of the invention. In general, such methods entail measuring a biological activity of the polypeptide in the presence and absence of a test compound and identifying those compounds which alter the activity of the polypeptide.

20 The invention also features methods for identifying a compound which modulates the expression of a polypeptide or nucleic acid of the invention by measuring the expression of the polypeptide or nucleic acid in the presence and absence of the compound.

25 Other features and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following detailed description and claims.

Brief Description of the Drawings

30 *Figure 1* comprises Figures 1A through 1H. The nucleotide sequence (SEQ ID NO: 1) of a cDNA encoding the human TANGO 202 protein described herein

is listed in Figures 1A and 1B. The open reading frame (ORF; residues 34 to 1458; SEQ ID NO: 2) of the cDNA is indicated by nucleotide triplets, above which the amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO: 3) of human TANGO 202 is listed. The nucleotide sequence (SEQ ID NO: 67) of a cDNA encoding the murine TANGO 202 protein described herein is listed in Figures 1C, 1D, and 1E. The ORF (residues 81 to 1490; SEQ ID NO: 68) of the cDNA is indicated by nucleotide triplets, above which the amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO: 69) of murine TANGO 202 is listed. An alignment of the amino acid sequences of human ("Hum."; SEQ ID NO: 3) and murine ("Mur."; SEQ ID NO: 69) TANGO 202 protein is shown in Figure 1F, wherein identical amino acid residues are indicated by ":" and similar amino acid residues are indicated by ".". Figure 1G is a hydrophilicity plot of human TANGO 202 protein, in which the locations of cysteine residues ("Cys") and potential N-glycosylation sites ("Ngly") are indicated by vertical bars and the predicted extracellular ("out"), intracellular ("ins"), or transmembrane ("TM") locations of the protein backbone is indicated by a horizontal bar. Figure 1H is a hydrophilicity plot of murine TANGO 202 protein.

Figure 2 comprises Figures 2A through 2Q. The nucleotide sequence (SEQ ID NO: 9) of a cDNA encoding the human TANGO 234 protein described herein is listed in Figures 2A through 2E. The ORF (residues 28 to 4386; SEQ ID NO: 10) of the cDNA is indicated by nucleotide triplets, above which the amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO: 11) of human TANGO 234 is listed. Figure 2F is a hydrophilicity plot of human TANGO 234 protein. An alignment of the amino acid sequences of human TANGO 234 ("Hum"; SEQ ID NO: 11) and bovine WC1 ("WC1"; SEQ ID NO: 78) proteins is shown in Figures 2G through 2I, wherein identical amino acid residues are indicated by ":" and similar amino acid residues are indicated by ".". An alignment of the nucleotide sequences of an ORF encoding human TANGO 234 ("Hum"; SEQ ID NO: 10) and an ORF encoding bovine WC1 ("WC1"; SEQ ID NO: 79) proteins is shown in Figures 2J through 2Q, wherein identical nucleotide residues are indicated by ":".

Figure 3 comprises Figures 3A through 3I. The nucleotide sequence (SEQ ID NO: 17) of a cDNA encoding the human TANGO 265 protein described

herein is listed in Figures 3A, 3B, and 3C. The ORF (residues 32 to 2314; SEQ ID NO: 18) of the cDNA is indicated by nucleotide triplets, above which the amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO: 19) of human TANGO 265 is listed. An alignment of the amino acid sequences of human TANGO 265 protein ("Hum."; SEQ ID NO: 19) and murine semaphorin B protein ("Mur."; SEQ ID NO: 70; GenBank Accession No. X85991) is shown in Figure 3D, wherein identical amino acid residues are indicated by ":" and similar amino acid residues are indicated by ".". In Figures 3E, 3F, 3G, and 3H, an alignment of the nucleotide sequences of the cDNA encoding human TANGO 265 protein ("Hum."; SEQ ID NO: 17) and the nucleotide sequences of the cDNA encoding murine semaphorin B protein ("Mur."; SEQ ID NO: 71; GenBank Accession No. X85991) is shown. Figure 3I is a hydrophilicity plot of TANGO 265 protein.

Figure 4 comprises Figures 4A through 4G. The nucleotide sequence (SEQ ID NO: 25) of a cDNA encoding the human TANGO 273 protein described herein is listed in Figures 4A and 4B. The ORF (residues 135 to 650; SEQ ID NO: 26) of the cDNA is indicated by nucleotide triplets, above which the amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO: 27) of human TANGO 273 is listed. The nucleotide sequence (SEQ ID NO: 72) of a cDNA encoding the murine TANGO 273 protein described herein is listed in Figures 4C, and 4D. The ORF (residues 137 to 652; SEQ ID NO: 73) of the cDNA is indicated by nucleotide triplets, above which the amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO: 74) of murine TANGO 273 is listed. An alignment of the amino acid sequences of human ("Hum."; SEQ ID NO: 27) and murine ("Mur."; SEQ ID NO: 74) TANGO 273 protein is shown in Figure 4E, wherein identical amino acid residues are indicated by ":" and similar amino acid residues are indicated by ".". Figure 4F is a hydrophilicity plot of human TANGO 273 protein, and Figure 4G is a hydrophilicity plot of murine TANGO 273 protein.

Figure 5 comprises Figures 5A through 5E. The nucleotide sequence (SEQ ID NO: 33) of a cDNA encoding the human TANGO 286 protein described herein is listed in Figures 5A and 5B. The ORF (residues 133 to 1497; SEQ ID NO: 34) of the cDNA is indicated by nucleotide triplets, above which the amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO: 35) of human TANGO 286 is listed. Figure 5C is a

hydrophilicity plot of TANGO 286 protein. An alignment of the amino acid sequences of human TANGO 286 ("286"; SEQ ID NO: 35) and BPI protein ("BPI"; SEQ ID NO: 38) protein is shown in Figure 5D, wherein identical amino acid residues are indicated by ":" and similar amino acid residues are indicated by ".". An alignment of the amino acid sequences of human TANGO 286 ("286"; SEQ ID NO: 35) and RENP protein ("RENP"; SEQ ID NO: 39) is shown in Figure 5E, wherein identical amino acid residues are indicated by ":" and similar amino acid residues are indicated by ".".

Figure 6 comprises Figures 6A through 6E. The nucleotide sequence (SEQ ID NO: 45) of a cDNA encoding the human TANGO 294 protein described herein is listed in Figures 6A and 6B. The ORF (residues 126 to 1394; SEQ ID NO: 46) of the cDNA is indicated by nucleotide triplets, above which the amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO: 47) of human TANGO 294 is listed. An alignment of the amino acid sequences of human TANGO 294 protein ("294"; SEQ ID NO: 47) and a known human lipase protein ("HLP"; SEQ ID NO: 75; GenBank Accession No. NP_004181) is shown in Figure 6C, wherein identical amino acid residues are indicated by ":" and similar amino acid residues are indicated by ".". Figure 6D is a hydrophilicity plot of TANGO 294 protein. An alignment of the amino acid sequences of human TANGO 294 protein ("294"; SEQ ID NO: 47) and a known human lysosomal acid lipase protein ("LAL"; SEQ ID NO: 41) is shown in Figure 6E, wherein identical amino acid residues are indicated by ":" and similar amino acid residues are indicated by ".".

Figure 7 comprises Figures 7A through 7D. The nucleotide sequence (SEQ ID NO: 53) of a cDNA encoding the human INTERCEPT 296 protein described herein is listed in Figures 7A and 7B. The ORF (residues 70 to 1098; SEQ ID NO: 54) of the cDNA is indicated by nucleotide triplets, above which the amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO: 55) of human INTERCEPT 296 protein is listed. Figure 7C is a hydrophilicity plot of INTERCEPT 296 protein. An alignment of the amino acid sequences of human INTERCEPT 296 protein ("296"; SEQ ID NO: 55) and *C. elegans* C06E1.3 related protein ("CRP"; SEQ ID NO: 40) is shown in Figure 7D, wherein

identical amino acid residues are indicated by ":" and similar amino acid residues are indicated by ".".

Detailed Description of the Invention

The present invention is based, at least in part, on the discovery of a variety of human and murine cDNA molecules which encode proteins which are herein designated TANGO 202, TANGO 234, TANGO 265, TANGO 273, TANGO 286, TANGO 294, and INTERCEPT 296. These proteins exhibit a variety of physiological activities, and are included in a single application for the sake of convenience. It is understood that the allowability or non-allowability of claims directed to one of these proteins has no bearing on the allowability of claims directed to the others. The characteristics of each of these proteins and the cDNAs encoding them are now described separately.

TANGO 202

A cDNA encoding at least a portion of human TANGO 202 protein was isolated from a human fetal skin cDNA library. The corresponding murine cDNA was isolated from a bone marrow stromal cell cDNA library. The human TANGO 202 protein is predicted by structural analysis to be a type I membrane protein, although it can exist in a secreted form as well. The murine TANGO 202 protein is predicted by structural analysis to be a secreted protein.

The full length of the cDNA encoding human TANGO 202 protein (Figure 1; SEQ ID NO: 1) is 1656 nucleotide residues. The open reading frame (ORF) of this cDNA, nucleotide residues 34 to 1458 of SEQ ID NO: 1 (i.e. SEQ ID NO: 2), encodes a 475-amino acid transmembrane protein (Figure 1; SEQ ID NO: 3).

The invention thus includes purified human TANGO 202 protein, both in the form of the immature 475 amino acid residue protein (SEQ ID NO: 3) and in the form of the mature 456 amino acid residue protein (SEQ ID NO: 5). The invention also includes purified murine TANGO 202 protein, both in the form of the immature 470 amino acid residue protein (SEQ ID NO: 67) and in the form of the mature 451 amino acid residue protein (SEQ ID NO: 43). Mature human or murine TANGO 202

proteins can be synthesized without the signal sequence polypeptide at the amino terminus thereof, or they can be synthesized by generating immature TANGO 202 protein and cleaving the signal sequence therefrom.

In addition to full length mature and immature human and murine TANGO 202 proteins, the invention includes fragments, derivatives, and variants of these TANGO 202 proteins, as described herein. These proteins, fragments, derivatives, and variants are collectively referred to herein as polypeptides of the invention or proteins of the invention.

The invention also includes nucleic acid molecules which encode a polypeptide of the invention. Such nucleic acids include, for example, a DNA molecule having the nucleotide sequence listed in SEQ ID NO: 1 or some portion thereof or SEQ ID NO: 67 or some portion thereof, such as the portion which encodes mature human or murine TANGO 202 protein, immature human or murine TANGO 202 protein, or a domain of human or murine TANGO 202 protein. These nucleic acids are collectively referred to as nucleic acids of the invention.

TANGO 202 proteins and nucleic acid molecules encoding them comprise a family of molecules having certain conserved structural and functional features. As used herein, the term "family" is intended to mean two or more proteins or nucleic acid molecules having a common or similar domain structure and having sufficient amino acid or nucleotide sequence identity as defined herein. Family members can be from either the same or different species (e.g. human and mouse, as described herein). For example, a family can comprise two or more proteins of human origin, or can comprise one or more proteins of human origin and one or more of non-human origin.

A common domain present in TANGO 202 proteins is a signal sequence. As used herein, a signal sequence includes a peptide of at least about 10 amino acid residues in length which occurs at the amino terminus of membrane-bound and secreted proteins and which contains at least about 45% hydrophobic amino acid residues such as alanine, leucine, isoleucine, phenylalanine, proline, tyrosine, tryptophan, or valine. In a preferred embodiment, a signal sequence contains at least

about 10 to 35 amino acid residues, preferably about 10 to 20 amino acid residues, and has at least about 35-60%, more preferably 40-50%, and more preferably at least about 45% hydrophobic residues. A signal sequence serves to direct a protein containing such a sequence to a lipid bilayer. Thus, in one embodiment, a TANGO 202 protein contains a signal sequence corresponding to amino acid residues 1 to 19 of SEQ ID NO: 3 (SEQ ID NO: 4) or to amino acid residues 1 to 19 of SEQ ID NO: 69 (SEQ ID NO: 42). The signal sequence is cleaved during processing of the mature protein.

TANGO 202 proteins can also include an extracellular domain. As used herein, an "extracellular domain" refers to a portion of a protein which is localized to the non-cytoplasmic side of a lipid bilayer of a cell when a nucleic acid encoding the protein is expressed in the cell. The human TANGO 202 protein extracellular domain is located from about amino acid residue 20 to about amino acid residue 392 of SEQ ID NO: 3 in the non-secreted form, and from about amino acid residue 20 to amino acid residue 475 of SEQ ID NO: 3 (i.e. the entire mature human protein). The murine TANGO 202 protein extracellular domain is located from about amino acid residue 20 to amino acid residue 470 of SEQ ID NO: 69 (i.e. the entire mature murine protein).

TANGO 202 proteins of the invention can also include a transmembrane domain. As used herein, a "transmembrane domain" refers to an amino acid sequence having at least about 20 to 25 amino acid residues in length and which contains at least about 65-70% hydrophobic amino acid residues such as alanine, leucine, phenylalanine, protein, tyrosine, tryptophan, or valine. In a preferred embodiment, a transmembrane domain contains at least about 15 to 30 amino acid residues, preferably about 20-25 amino acid residues, and has at least about 60-80%, more preferably 65-75%, and more preferably at least about 70% hydrophobic residues. Thus, in one embodiment, a TANGO 202 protein of the invention contains a transmembrane domain corresponding to about amino acid residues 393 to 415 of SEQ ID NO: 3 (SEQ ID NO: 7).

In addition, TANGO 202 proteins of the invention can include a cytoplasmic domain, particularly including a carboxyl-terminal cytoplasmic domain. As used herein, a "cytoplasmic domain" refers to a portion of a protein which is localized to the cytoplasmic side of a lipid bilayer of a cell when a nucleic acid

encoding the protein is expressed in the cell. The cytoplasmic domain is located from about amino acid residue 416 to amino acid residue 475 of SEQ ID NO: 3 (SEQ ID NO: 8) in the non-secreted form of human TANGO 202 protein.

TANGO 202 proteins typically comprise a variety of potential post-translational modification sites (often within an extracellular domain), such as those described herein in Tables I (for human TANGO 202) and II (for murine TANGO 202), as predicted by computerized sequence analysis of TANGO 202 proteins using amino acid sequence comparison software (comparing the amino acid sequence of TANGO 202 with the information in the PROSITE database {rel. 12.2; Feb, 1995} and the Hidden Markov Models database {Rel. PFAM 3.3}).

Table I

Type of Potential Modification Site or Domain	Amino Acid Residues of SEQ ID NO: 3	Amino Acid Sequence
N-glycosylation site	47 to 50 61 to 64 219 to 222 295 to 298 335 to 338 347 to 350	NWTA NETF NYSA NVSL NQTV NLSV
Protein kinase C phosphorylation site	70 to 72 137 to 139 141 to 143 155 to 157 238 to 240 245 to 247 277 to 279 307 to 309 355 to 357 387 to 389 418 to 420 421 to 423	TLK TSK SNK SQR TGR TIR THR SDR SSK SHR TFK SHR
Casein kinase II phosphorylation site	337 to 340 438 to 441 464 to 467	TVAE TSGE SQQD

Table I (Cont'd)

N-myristoylation site	53 to 58 120 to 125 136 to 141 162 to 167 214 to 219	GGKPCL GNLGCY GTSKTS GMESGY GACGGN
Kringle domain signature	85 to 90	YCRNPD
Kringle Domain	34 to 116	See Fig. 1
CUB domain	216 to 320	See Fig. 1

Table II

Type of Potential Modification Site or Domain	Amino Acid Residues of SEQ ID NO: 69	Amino Acid Sequence
N-glycosylation site	59 to 62 217 to 220 255 to 258 293 to 296 333 to 336 345 to 348	NETF NYSA NFTL NVSL NQTL NLSV
cAMP- or cGMP-dependent protein kinase phosphorylation site	455 to 458	RRSS
Protein kinase C phosphorylation site	68 to 70 135 to 137 139 to 141 153 to 155 236 to 238 243 to 245 275 to 277 283 to 285 305 to 307 353 to 355 408 to 410 453 to 455 457 to 459	TLK TSK SNK SQR TGR TIR THR SGR SDR SSK SQR SLR SSR

Table II (Cont'd)

5	Casein kinase II phosphorylation site	28 to 31	SGPE
		257 to 260	TLFD
		321 to 324	TKEE
		335 to 338	TLAE
		384 to 387	TATE
10	N-myristoylation site	51 TO 56	GGKPCL
		118 TO 123	GNLGCY
		134 TO 139	GTSKTS
		160 TO 165	GMESGY
		212 TO 217	GACGGN
		391 TO 396	GLCTAW
		429 TO 434	GTVVSL
15	Kringle domain signature	83 to 88	YCRNPD
	Kringle Domain	32 to 114	See Fig. 1
	CUB domain	214 to 318	See Fig. 1

As used herein, the term "post-translational modification site" refers to a protein domain that includes about 3 to 10 amino acid residues, more preferably about 3 to 6 amino acid residues wherein the domain has an amino acid sequence which comprises a consensus sequence which is recognized and modified by a protein-modifying enzyme. Exemplary protein-modifying enzymes include amino acid glycosylases, cAMP- and cGMP-dependent protein kinases, protein kinase C, casein kinase II, myristoylases, and prenyl transferases. In various embodiments, the protein of the invention has at least 1, 2, 4, 6, 10, 15, or 20 or more of the post-translational modification sites described herein in Tables I and II.

Exemplary additional domains present in human and murine TANGO 202 protein include Kringle domains and CUB domains. In one embodiment, the protein of the invention has at least one domain that is at least 55%, preferably at least about 65%, more preferably at least about 75%, yet more preferably at least about 85%, and most preferably at least about 95% identical to one of the domains described herein in Tables I and II. Preferably, the protein of the invention has at least one Kringle domain and one CUB domain.

A Kringle domain has a characteristic profile that has been described in the art (Castellino and Beals (1987) *J. Mol. Evol.* 26:358-369; Patthy (1985) *Cell* 41:657-663; Ikeo et al. (1991) *FEBS Lett.* 287:146-148). Many, but not all, Kringle domains comprise a conserved hexapeptide signature sequence, namely

(F or Y) - C - R - N - P - (D or N or R).

The cysteine residue is involved in a disulfide bond.

Kringle domains are triple-looped, disulfide cross-linked domains found in a varying number of copies in, for example, some serine proteases and plasma proteins. Kringle domains have a role in binding mediators (e.g. membranes, other proteins, or phospholipids) and in regulation of proteolytic activity. Kringle domains have been identified in the following proteins, for example: apolipoprotein A, blood coagulation factor XII (Hageman factor), hepatocyte growth factor (HGF), HGF-like protein (Friesner Degen et al., (1991) *Biochemistry* 30:9781-9791), HGF activator (Miyazawa et al., (1993) *J. Biol. Chem.* 268:10024-10028), plasminogen, thrombin, tissue plasminogen activator, urokinase-type plasminogen activator, and four influenza neuraminidases. The presence of a Kringle domain in each of human and murine TANGO 202 protein indicates that TANGO 202 is involved in one or more physiological processes in which these other Kringle domain-containing proteins are involved, has biological activity in common with one or more of these other Kringle domain-containing proteins, or both.

CUB domains are extracellular domains of about 110 amino acid residues which occur in functionally diverse, mostly developmentally regulated proteins (Bork and Beckmann (1993) *J. Mol. Biol.* 231:539-545; Bork (1991) *FEBS Lett.* 282:9-12). Many CUB domains contain four conserved cysteine residues, although some, like that of TANGO 202, contain only two of the conserved cysteine residues. The structure of the CUB domain has been predicted to assume a beta-barrel configuration, similar to that of immunoglobulins. Other proteins which have been found to comprise one or more CUB domains include, for example, mammalian complement sub-components C1s and C1r, hamster serine protease Casp, mammalian complement activating component of Ra-reactive factor, vertebrate enteropeptidase,

vertebrate bone morphogenic protein 1, sea urchin blastula proteins BP10 and SpAN, *Caenorhabditis elegans* hypothetical proteins F42A10.8 and R151.5, neuropilin (A5 antigen), sea urchin fibropellins I and III, mammalian hyaluronate-binding protein TSG-6 (PS4), mammalian spermadhesins, and *Xenopus* embryonic protein UVS.2. The presence of a CUB domain in each of human and murine TANGO 202 protein indicates that TANGO 202 is involved in one or more physiological processes in which these other CUB domain-containing proteins are involved, has biological activity in common with one or more of these other CUB domain-containing proteins, or both.

The signal peptide prediction program SIGNALP (Nielsen et al. (1997) *Protein Engineering* 10:1-6) predicted that human TANGO 202 protein includes a 19 amino acid signal peptide (amino acid residues 1 to 19 of SEQ ID NO: 3; SEQ ID NO: 4) preceding the mature TANGO 202 protein (amino acid residues 20 to 475 of SEQ ID NO: 3; SEQ ID NO: 5). Human TANGO 202 protein includes an extracellular domain (amino acid residues 20 to 392 of SEQ ID NO: 3; SEQ ID NO: 6); a transmembrane domain (amino acid residues 393 to 415 of SEQ ID NO: 3; SEQ ID NO: 7); and a cytoplasmic domain (amino acid residues 416 to 475 of SEQ ID NO: 3; SEQ ID NO: 8). The murine homolog of TANGO 202 protein is predicted to be a secreted protein. Thus, it is recognized that human TANGO 202 can also exist in the form of a secreted protein, likely being translated from an alternatively spliced TANGO 202 mRNA. In a variant form of the protein, an extracellular portion of TANGO 202 protein (e.g. amino acid residues 20 to 392 of SEQ ID NO: 3) can be cleaved from the mature protein to generate a soluble fragment of TANGO 202.

Figure 1G depicts a hydrophilicity plot of human TANGO 202 protein. Relatively hydrophobic regions are above the dashed horizontal line, and relatively hydrophilic regions are below the dashed horizontal line. The hydrophobic region which corresponds to amino acid residues 1 to 19 of SEQ ID NO: 3 is the signal sequence of human TANGO 202 (SEQ ID NO: 4). The hydrophobic region which corresponds to amino acid residues 393 to 415 of SEQ ID NO: 3 is the transmembrane domain of human TANGO 202 (SEQ ID NO: 7). As described elsewhere herein, relatively hydrophilic regions are generally located at or near the surface of a protein,

and are more frequently effective immunogenic epitopes than are relatively hydrophobic regions. For example, the region of human TANGO 202 protein from about amino acid residue 61 to about amino acid residue 95 appears to be located at or near the surface of the protein, while the region from about amino acid residue 395 to about amino acid residue 420 appears not to be located at or near the surface.

The predicted molecular weight of human TANGO 202 protein without modification and prior to cleavage of the signal sequence is about 51.9 kilodaltons. The predicted molecular weight of the mature human TANGO 202 protein without modification and after cleavage of the signal sequence is about 50.1 kilodaltons.

The full length of the cDNA encoding murine TANGO 202 protein (Figure 1; SEQ ID NO: 67) is 4928 nucleotide residues. The ORF of this cDNA, nucleotide residues 81 to 1490 of SEQ ID NO: 67 (i.e. SEQ ID NO: 68), encodes a 470-amino acid secreted protein (Figure 1; SEQ ID NO: 69).

The signal peptide prediction program SIGNALP (Nielsen et al. (1997) *Protein Engineering* 10:1-6) predicted that murine TANGO 202 protein includes a 19 amino acid signal peptide (amino acid residues 1 to 19 of SEQ ID NO: 69; SEQ ID NO: 42) preceding the mature TANGO 202 protein (amino acid residues 20 to 470 of SEQ ID NO: 69; SEQ ID NO: 43). Murine TANGO 202 protein is a secreted protein.

Figure 1H depicts a hydrophilicity plot of murine TANGO 202 protein. Relatively hydrophobic regions are above the dashed horizontal line, and relatively hydrophilic regions are below the dashed horizontal line. The hydrophobic region which corresponds to amino acid residues 1 to 19 of SEQ ID NO: 69 is the signal sequence of murine TANGO 202 (SEQ ID NO: 42). As described elsewhere herein, relatively hydrophilic regions are generally located at or near the surface of a protein, and are more frequently effective immunogenic epitopes than are relatively hydrophobic regions. For example, the region of murine TANGO 202 protein from about amino acid residue 61 to about amino acid residue 95 appears to be located at or near the surface of the protein, while the region from about amino acid residue 295 to about amino acid residue 305 appears not to be located at or near the surface

The predicted molecular weight of murine TANGO 202 protein without modification and prior to cleavage of the signal sequence is about 51.5 kilodaltons. The predicted molecular weight of the mature murine TANGO 202 protein without modification and after cleavage of the signal sequence is about 49.7 kilodaltons.

Human and murine TANGO 202 proteins exhibit considerable sequence similarity, as indicated herein in Figure 1F. Figure 1F depicts an alignment of human and murine TANGO 202 amino acid sequences (SEQ ID NOs: 3 and 69, respectively). In this alignment (made using the ALIGN software {Myers and Miller (1989) *CABIOS*, ver. 2.0}; pam120.mat scoring matrix; gap penalties -12/-4), the proteins are 76.5% identical. The human and murine ORFs encoding TANGO 202 are 87.4% identical, as assessed using the same software and parameters.

In situ hybridization experiments in mouse tissues indicated that mRNA corresponding to the cDNA encoding TANGO 202 is expressed in the tissues listed in Table III, wherein "+" indicates detectable expression and "++" indicates a greater level of expression than "+".

Table III

Animal	Tissue	Relative Level of Expression
Mouse (Adult)	bladder, especially in transitional epithelium	++
	renal glomeruli	+
	brain	+
	heart	+
	liver	+
	spleen	+
	placenta	+
Mouse (Embryo)	ubiquitous	+

Biological function of TANGO 202 proteins, nucleic acids encoding them, and modulators of these molecules

TANGO 202 proteins are involved in disorders which affect both tissues in which they are normally expressed and tissues in which they are normally not expressed. Based on the observation that TANGO 202 is expressed in human fetal skin, ubiquitously in fetal mouse tissues, in adult murine bone marrow stromal cells, and in cells of adult murine bladder, renal glomeruli, brain, heart, liver, spleen and placenta, TANGO 202 protein is involved in one or more biological processes which occur in these tissues. In particular, TANGO 202 is involved in modulating growth, proliferation, survival, differentiation, and activity of cells of these tissues including, but not limited to, hematopoietic and fetal cells. Thus, TANGO 202 has a role in disorders which affect these cells and their growth, proliferation, survival, differentiation, and activity. Ubiquitous expression of TANGO 202 in fetal murine tissues, contrasted with limited expression in adult murine tissues further indicates that TANGO 202 is involved in disorders in which it is inappropriately expressed (e.g. disorders in which TANGO 202 is expressed in adult murine tissues other than bone marrow stromal cells and disorders in which TANGO 202 is not expressed in one or more developing fetal tissues).

The occurrence of a Kringle domain in both the murine and human TANGO 202 proteins indicates that this protein is involved in modulating cellular binding to one or more mediators (e.g. proteins, phospholipids, intracellular organelles, or other cells), in modulating proteolytic activity, or both. The occurrence of a Kringle domain in other proteins (e.g. growth factors) indicates activities that these proteins share with TANGO 202 protein (e.g. modulating cell dissociation and migration into and through extracellular matrices). The occurrence of Kringle domains in numerous plasma proteins, particularly coupled with the observation that TANGO 202 is expressed in adult murine bone marrow stromal cells, indicates a role for TANGO 202 protein in modulating binding of blood or hematopoietic cells (or both) to one or more mediators. Thus, TANGO 202 is involved in disorders relating to aberrant cellular protease activity, inappropriate interaction or non-interaction of cells with mediators,

and in blood and hematopoietic cell-related disorders. Such disorders include, by way of example and not limitation, immune disorders, infectious diseases, auto-immune disorders, vascular and cardiovascular disorders, disorders related to mal-expression of growth factors, cancers, hematological disorders, and the like.

5 The occurrence of a CUB domain in both the murine and human TANGO 202 proteins indicates that this protein is involved in biological processes common to other CUB domain-containing proteins, such as developmental processes and binding to mediators. Therefore, TANGO 202 protein has a role in disorders which involve inappropriate developmental processes (e.g. abnormally high proliferation or un-differentiation of a differentiated tissue or abnormally low differentiation or proliferation of a non-developed or non-differentiated tissue) and modulation of cell growth, proliferation, survival, differentiation, and activity. Such disorders include, by way of example and not limitation, various cancers and birth and developmental defects.

10 Thus, proteins and nucleic acids of the invention which are identical to, similar to, or derived from human and murine TANGO 202 proteins and nucleic acids encoding them are useful for preventing, diagnosing, and treating, among others, vascular and cardiovascular disorders, hematological disorders, disorders related to mal-expression of growth factors, and cancer. Other uses for these proteins and nucleic acids of the invention relate to modulating cell growth (e.g. angiogenesis), proliferation (e.g. cancers), survival (e.g. apoptosis), differentiation (e.g. hematopoiesis), and activity (e.g. ligand-binding capacity). TANGO 202 proteins and nucleic acids encoding them are also useful for modulating cell dissociation and modulating migration of cells in extracellular matrices.

25 TANGO 234

 A cDNA encoding at least a portion of human TANGO 234 protein was isolated from a human fetal spleen cDNA library. The human TANGO 234 protein is

predicted by structural analysis to be a transmembrane protein, although it can exist in a secreted form as well.

The full length of the cDNA encoding human TANGO 234 protein (Figure 2; SEQ ID NO: 9) is 4628 nucleotide residues. The ORF of this cDNA, nucleotide residues 28 to 4386 of SEQ ID NO: 9 (i.e. SEQ ID NO: 10), encodes a 1453-amino acid transmembrane protein (Figure 2; SEQ ID NO: 11).

The invention thus includes purified human TANGO 234 protein, both in the form of the immature 1453 amino acid residue protein (SEQ ID NO: 11) and in the form of the mature 1413 amino acid residue protein (SEQ ID NO: 13). Mature human TANGO 234 protein can be synthesized without the signal sequence polypeptide at the amino terminus thereof, or it can be synthesized by generating immature TANGO 234 protein and cleaving the signal sequence therefrom.

In addition to full length mature and immature human TANGO 234 proteins, the invention includes fragments, derivatives, and variants of these TANGO 234 proteins, as described herein. These proteins, fragments, derivatives, and variants are collectively referred to herein as polypeptides of the invention or proteins of the invention.

The invention also includes nucleic acid molecules which encode a polypeptide of the invention. Such nucleic acids include, for example, a DNA molecule having the nucleotide sequence listed in SEQ ID NO: 9 or some portion thereof, such as the portion which encodes mature TANGO 234 protein, immature TANGO 234 protein, or a domain of TANGO 234 protein. These nucleic acids are collectively referred to as nucleic acids of the invention.

TANGO 234 proteins and nucleic acid molecules encoding them comprise a family of molecules having certain conserved structural and functional features, as indicated by the conservation of amino acid sequence between human TANGO 234 protein and bovine WC1 protein, as shown in Figures 2G through 2I, and the conservation of nucleotide sequence between the ORFs encoding human TANGO 234 protein and bovine WC1 protein, as shown in Figures 2J through 2Q.

A common domain present in TANGO 234 proteins is a signal sequence. As used herein, a signal sequence includes a peptide of at least about 10 amino acid residues in length which occurs at the amino terminus of membrane-bound proteins and which contains at least about 45% hydrophobic amino acid residues such as alanine, leucine, isoleucine, phenylalanine, proline, tyrosine, tryptophan, or valine. In a preferred embodiment, a signal sequence contains at least about 10 to 35 amino acid residues, preferably about 10 to 20 amino acid residues, and has at least about 35-60%, more preferably 40-50%, and more preferably at least about 45% hydrophobic residues. A signal sequence serves to direct a protein containing such a sequence to a lipid bilayer. Thus, in one embodiment, a TANGO 234 protein contains a signal sequence corresponding to amino acid residues 1 to 40 of SEQ ID NO: 11 (SEQ ID NO: 12). The signal sequence is cleaved during processing of the mature protein.

TANGO 234 proteins can include an extracellular domain. The human TANGO 234 protein extracellular domain is located from about amino acid residue 41 to about amino acid residue 1359 of SEQ ID NO: 3. TANGO 234 can alternately exist in a secreted form, such as a mature protein having the amino acid sequence of amino acid residues 41 to 1453 or residues 41 to about 1359 of SEQ ID NO: 11.

In addition, TANGO 234 include a transmembrane domain. In one embodiment, a TANGO 234 protein of the invention contains a transmembrane domain corresponding to about amino acid residues 1360 to 1383 of SEQ ID NO: 11 (SEQ ID NO: 15).

The present invention includes TANGO 234 proteins having a cytoplasmic domain, particularly including proteins having a carboxyl-terminal cytoplasmic domain. The human TANGO 234 cytoplasmic domain is located from about amino acid residue 1384 to amino acid residue 1453 of SEQ ID NO: 11 (SEQ ID NO: 16).

TANGO 234 proteins typically comprise a variety of potential post-translational modification sites (often within an extracellular domain), such as those described herein in Table IV, as predicted by computerized sequence analysis of TANGO 234 proteins using amino acid sequence comparison software (comparing the

amino acid sequence of TANGO 234 with the information in the PROSITE database {rel. 12.2; Feb, 1995} and the Hidden Markov Models database {Rel. PFAM 3.3}). In certain embodiments, a protein of the invention has at least 1, 2, 4, 6, 10, 15, or 20 or more of the post-translational modification sites listed in Table IV.

Table IV

Type of Potential Modification Site or Domain	Amino Acid Residues of SEQ ID NO: 11	Amino Acid Sequence
N-glycosylation site	42 to 45	NGTD
	78 to 81	NTTA
	120 to 123	NESA
	161 to 164	NNSC
	334 to 337	NESF
	377 to 380	NCSG
	441 to 444	NESA
	548 to 551	NESN
	637 to 640	NAST
	972 to 975	NESL
	1013 to 1016	NVSD
	1084 to 1087	NATV
	1104 to 1107	NCTG
	1161 to 1164	NGTW
	1171 to 1174	NITT
	1318 to 1321	NESF
	1354 to 1357	NASS
Glycosaminoglycan attachment site	558 to 561	SGWG
	665 to 668	SGWG

Table IV (Continued)

cAMP- or cGMP-dependent protein kinase phosphorylation site	1229 to 1232 1399 to 1402	RRIS RRGS
Protein kinase C phosphorylation site	165 to 167	SGR
	268 to 270	TNR
	379 to 381	SGR
	419 to 421	SRR
	469 to 471	SDK
	506 to 508	STR
	589 to 591	SNR
	593 to 595	SGR
	661 to 663	SCR
	696 to 698	SSR
	746 to 748	TER
	805 to 807	SGR
	815 to 817	TWR
	959 to 961	SVR
	1256 to 1258	SGR
	1349 to 1351	SLK
	1396 to 1398	STR

Table IV (Continued)

5	Casein kinase II phosphorylation site	44 to 47	TDLE
		71 to 74	TVCD
		178 to 181	TICD
		245 to 248	SHNE
		253 to 256	TCYD
10		258 to 261	SDLE
		319 to 322	SGSD
		332 to 335	SGNE
		392 to 395	TICD
		439 to 442	TGNE
15		606 to 609	TVCD
		622 to 625	SQLD
		673 to 676	SHSE
		686 to 689	SDME
		760 to 763	TGGE
20		765 to 768	SLWD
		818 to 821	SVCD
		845 to 848	SVGD
		857 to 860	TWAE
		907 to 910	SQCD
25		923 to 926	SLCD
		927 to 930	THWD
		974 to 977	SLLD
		1059 to 1062	TICD
		1106 to 1109	TGTE
30		1145 to 1148	SETE
		1233 to 1236	SPAE
		1241 to 1244	TCED
		1269 to 1272	TVCD
		1402 to 1405	SLEE
		1425 to 1428	TSDD

Table IV (Continued)

5	N-myristoylation site	67 to 72	GQWGTV
		90 to 95	GCPFSF
		101 to 106	GQAVTR
		119 to 124	GNESAL
		133 to 138	GSHNCY
10		160 to 165	GNNSCS
		197 to 202	GCPSSF
		226 to 231	GNELAL
		240 to 245	GNHDCS
		267 to 272	GTNRCM
15		304 to 309	GCGTAL
		328 to 333	GVSCSG
		374 to 379	GSNNCS
		411 to 416	GCPFSV
		418 to 423	GSRRAK
20		440 to 445	GNESAL
		465 to 470	GVICSD
		547 to 552	GNESNI
		588 to 593	GSNRCS
		632 to 637	GMGLGN
25		668 to 673	GNNDCS
		679 to 684	GVICSD
		695 to 700	GSSRCA
		712 to 717	GILCAN
		720 to 725	GMNIAE
30		758 to 763	GCTGGE
		853 to 858	GNGLTW
		891 to 896	GVVCSR
		944 to 949	GTALST
		985 to 990	GAPPCI
35		992 to 997	GNTVSV
		1078 to 1083	GCGVAF
		1121 to 1126	GQHDCR
		1132 to 1137	GVICSE
		1162 to 1167	GTWGSV
40		1185 to 1190	GCGENG
		1265 to 1270	GSWGTV
		1288 to 1293	GCGSAL
		1302 to 1307	GQGTGT
		1331 to 1336	GQSDCG
		1342 to 1347	GVRCSG
		1422 to 1427	GTRTSD

Table IV (Continued)

N-myristoylation site (Cont'd)	1443 to 1438 1444 to 1449	GCEDAS GVLPAS
Amidation site	1167 to 1170	VGRR
Speract receptor repeated (SRR) domain signature	53 to 90 160 to 197 267 to 304 1041 to 1078 1251 to 1288	See Fig. 2 See Fig. 2 See Fig. 2 See Fig. 2 See Fig. 2
Scavenger receptor cysteine-rich (SRCR) domain	51 to 148 158 to 255 265 to 362 372 to 469 479 to 576 586 to 683 693 to 790 798 to 895 903 to 1000 1039 to 1136 1146 to 1243 1249 to 1346	See Fig. 2 See Fig. 2 See Fig. 2 See Fig. 2 See Fig. 2 See Fig. 2 See Fig. 2 See Fig. 2 See Fig. 2 See Fig. 2 See Fig. 2 See Fig. 2

Among the domains that occur in TANGO 234 protein are SRR domains and SRCR domains. In one embodiment, the protein of the invention has at least one domain that is at least 55%, preferably at least about 65%, more preferably at least about 75%, yet more preferably at least about 85%, and most preferably at least about 95% identical to one of these domains. In other embodiments, the protein has at least two of the SRR and SRCR domains described herein in Table IV. In other embodiments, the protein has at least one SRR domain and at least one SRCR domain.

The SRR domain is named after a receptor domain identified in a sea urchin egg protein designated speract. The consensus sequence of this domain (using standard one-letter amino acid codes, wherein X is any amino acid residue) is as follows.

-G-X₅-G-X₂-E-X₆-W-G-X₂-C-X₃-(F or Y or W)-X₈-C-X₃-G-

Speract is a transmembrane glycoprotein of 500 amino acid residues (Dangott et al. (1989) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 86:2128-2132). Structurally, this receptor consists of a large extracellular domain of 450 residues, followed by a transmembrane region and a small cytoplasmic domain of 12 amino acid residues. The extracellular domain contains four repeats of an approximately 115 amino acid domain. There are 17 amino acid residues that are perfectly conserved in the four repeats in speract, including six cysteine residues, six glycine residues, and two glutamate residues. TANGO 234 has five SRR domains, in which 16 of the 17 conserved speract residues are present of four of the SRR domains and 15 are present in the remaining SRR domain. This domain is designated the speract receptor repeated domain. The amino acid sequence of mammalian macrophage scavenger receptor type I (MSRI) exhibits such a domain (Freeman et al. (1990) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 87:8810-8814). MSRI proteins are membrane glycoproteins implicated in the pathologic deposition of cholesterol in arterial walls during atherogenesis. TANGO 234 is involved in one or more physiological processes related to cholesterol deposition and atherogenesis, as well as other vascular and cardiovascular disorders.

Scavenger receptor cysteine-rich (SRCR) domains are disulfide rich extracellular domains which are present in certain cell surface and secreted proteins. Proteins having SRCR domains exhibit diverse ligand binding specificity. For example, in addition to modified lipoproteins, some of these proteins bind a variety of surface components of pathogenic microorganisms, and some of the proteins bind apoptotic cells. SRCR domains are also involved in mediating immune development and response. Other SRCR-containing proteins are involved in binding of modified lipoproteins (e.g. oxidized low density lipoprotein {LDL}) by specialized macrophages, leading to the formation of macrophages filled with cholesteryl ester droplets (i.e. foam cells). TANGO 234 is involved in one or more physiological processes in which these other SRCR domain-containing proteins are involved, such as LDL uptake and metabolism, regulation of serum cholesterol level, atherogenesis, atherosclerosis,

bacterial or viral infections, immune development, and generation and perseverance of immune responses.

WC1 is a ruminant protein having an SRCR domain. WC1 and gamma delta T-cell receptor are the only known gamma delta T-cell specific antigens.

Antibodies which bind specifically with WC1 induce growth arrest in IL-2-dependent gamma delta T-cell and augment proliferation of gamma delta T-cells in an autologous mixed lymphocyte reaction or in the presence of anti-CD2 or anti-CD5 antibodies.

Injection of antibodies which bind specifically with WC1 into calves results in long-lasting depletion of gamma delta T-cells. Furthermore, antibodies which bind specifically with WC1 can be used to purify gamma delta T-cells.

Gamma delta T-cells are involved in a variety of physiological processes. For example, these cells are potential mediators of allergic airway inflammation and lyme disease. Furthermore, these cells are involved in natural resistance to viral infections and can mediate autoimmune diseases. Elimination of gamma delta T-cells by injection of antibodies which bind specifically therewith can affect the outcomes of these disorders.

TANGO 234 is likely the human orthologue of ruminant protein WC1, and thus is involved with the physiological processes described above in humans. An alignment of the amino acid sequences of (human) TANGO 234 and bovine WC1 protein is shown in Figures 2G, 2H, and 2I. In this alignment (made using the ALIGN software {Myers and Miller (1989) *CABIOS*, ver. 2.0}; pam120.mat scoring matrix; gap penalties -12/-4), the proteins are 40.4% identical. An alignment of the nucleotide sequences of the ORFs encoding (human) TANGO 234 and bovine WC1 protein is shown in Figures 2J through 2Q. The two ORFs are 54.3% identical, as assessed using the same software and parameters.

The signal peptide prediction program SIGNALP (Nielsen et al. (1997) *Protein Engineering* 10:1-6) predicted that human TANGO 234 protein includes a 40 amino acid signal peptide (amino acid residues 1 to 40 of SEQ ID NO: 11; SEQ ID NO: 12) preceding the mature TANGO 234 protein (amino acid residues 41 to 4386 of SEQ ID NO: 11; SEQ ID NO: 13). Human TANGO 234 protein includes an

extracellular domain (amino acid residues 41 to 1359 of SEQ ID NO: 11; SEQ ID NO: 14); a transmembrane domain (amino acid residues 1360 to 1383 of SEQ ID NO: 11; SEQ ID NO: 15); and a cytoplasmic domain (amino acid residues 1384 to 1453 of SEQ ID NO: 11; SEQ ID NO: 16).

Figure 2F depicts a hydrophilicity plot of human TANGO 234 protein. Relatively hydrophobic regions are above the dashed horizontal line, and relatively hydrophilic regions are below the dashed horizontal line. The hydrophobic region which corresponds to amino acid residues 1 to 40 of SEQ ID NO: 11 is the signal sequence of human TANGO 234 (SEQ ID NO: 12). The hydrophobic region which corresponds to amino acid residues 1360 to 1383 of SEQ ID NO: 11 is the transmembrane domain of human TANGO 234 (SEQ ID NO: 15). As described elsewhere herein, relatively hydrophilic regions are generally located at or near the surface of a protein, and are more frequently effective immunogenic epitopes than are relatively hydrophobic regions. For example, the region of human TANGO 234 protein from about amino acid residue 225 to about amino acid residue 250 appears to be located at or near the surface of the protein, while the region from about amino acid residue 990 to about amino acid residue 1000 appears not to be located at or near the surface.

The predicted molecular weight of human TANGO 234 protein without modification and prior to cleavage of the signal sequence is about 159.3 kilodaltons. The predicted molecular weight of the mature human TANGO 234 protein without modification and after cleavage of the signal sequence is about 154.7 kilodaltons.

Chromosomal mapping to identify the location of the gene encoding human TANGO 234 protein indicated that the gene was located at chromosomal location h12p13 (with synteny to mo6). Flanking chromosomal markers include WI-6980 and GATA8A09.43. Nearby human loci include IBD2 (inflammatory bowel disease 2), FPF (familial periodic fever), and HPDR2 (hypophosphatemia vitamin D resistant rickets 2). Nearby genes are KLRC (killer cell receptor cluster), DRPLA (dentatorubro-pallidoluysian atrophy), GAPD (glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase, and PXR1 (peroxisome receptor 1). Murine chromosomal mapping

indicated that the murine orthologue is located near the scr (scruffy) locus. Nearby mouse genes include drpla (dentatorubral phillidolusian atrophy), prp (proline rich protein), and kap (kidney androgen regulated protein).

Northern analysis experiments indicated that mRNA corresponding to the cDNA encoding TANGO 234 is expressed in the tissues listed in Table V, wherein "++" indicates moderate expression, "+" indicates lower expression, and "-" indicates no detectable expression.

Table V

Animal	Tissue	Relative Level of Expression
Human	spleen	++
	fetal lung	++
	lung	+
	thymus	+
	bone marrow	-
	peripheral blood leukocytes	-

Biological function of TANGO 234 proteins, nucleic acids encoding them, and modulators of these molecules

TANGO 234 proteins are involved in disorders which affect both tissues in which they are normally expressed and tissues in which they are normally not expressed. Based on the observation that TANGO 234 is expressed in human fetal lung, spleen, and, to a lesser extent in adult lung and thymus tissue, TANGO 234 protein is involved in one or more biological processes which occur in these tissues. In particular, TANGO 234 is involved in modulating growth, proliferation, survival, differentiation, and activity of cells including, but not limited to, lung, spleen, thymus bone marrow, hematopoietic, peripheral blood leukocytes, and fetal cells of the animal in which it is normally expressed. Thus, TANGO 234 has a role in disorders which affect these cells and their growth, proliferation, survival, differentiation, and activity. Expression of TANGO 234 in an animal is also involved in modulating growth,

proliferation, survival, differentiation, and activity of cells and viruses which are foreign to the host (i.e. bacterial, fungal, and viral infections).

Homology of human TANGO 234 with bovine WC1 protein indicates that TANGO 234 has physiological functions in humans analogous to the functions of WC1 in ruminants. Thus, TANGO 234 is involved in modulating growth, proliferation, survival, differentiation, and activity of gamma delta T cells. For example, TANGO 234 affects the ability of gamma delta T cells to interact with chemokines such as interleukin-2. TANGO 234 therefore is involved in the physiological processes associated with allergic airway inflammation, lyme arthritis, resistance to viral infection, auto-immune diseases, and the like.

In addition, occurrence in TANGO 234 of SRR and SRCR domains indicates that TANGO 234 is involved in physiological functions identical or analogous to the functions performed by other proteins having such domains. For example, like other SRR domain-containing proteins, TANGO 234 modulates cholesterol deposition in arterial walls, and is thus involved in development and persistence of atherogenesis and arteriosclerosis, as well as other vascular and cardiovascular disorders. Like other SRCR domain-containing proteins, TANGO 234 is involved in uptake and metabolism of LDL, regulation of serum cholesterol level, and can modulate these processes as well as the processes of atherogenesis, arteriosclerosis, immune development, and generation and perseverance of immune responses to bacterial, fungal, and viral infections.

TANGO 265

A cDNA encoding at least a portion of human TANGO 265 protein was isolated from a human fetal spleen cDNA library. The human TANGO 265 protein is predicted by structural analysis to be a transmembrane membrane protein, although it can exist in a secreted form as well.

The full length of the cDNA encoding human TANGO 265 protein (Figure 3; SEQ ID NO: 17) is 3104 nucleotide residues. The ORF of this cDNA,

nucleotide residues 32 to 2314 of SEQ ID NO: 17 (i.e. SEQ ID NO: 18), encodes a 761-amino acid transmembrane protein (Figure 3; SEQ ID NO: 19).

The invention thus includes purified TANGO 265 protein, both in the form of the immature 761 amino acid residue protein (SEQ ID NO: 19) and in the form of the mature 730 amino acid residue protein (SEQ ID NO: 21). Mature TANGO 265 protein can be synthesized without the signal sequence polypeptide at the amino terminus thereof, or it can be synthesized by generating immature TANGO 265 protein and cleaving the signal sequence therefrom.

In addition to full length mature and immature TANGO 265 proteins, the invention includes fragments, derivatives, and variants of TANGO 265 protein, as described herein. These proteins, fragments, derivatives, and variants are collectively referred to herein as polypeptides of the invention or proteins of the invention.

The invention also includes nucleic acid molecules which encode a polypeptide of the invention. Such nucleic acids include, for example, a DNA molecule having the nucleotide sequence listed in SEQ ID NO: 17 or some portion thereof, such as the portion which encodes mature TANGO 265 protein, immature TANGO 265 protein, or a domain of TANGO 265 protein. These nucleic acids are collectively referred to as nucleic acids of the invention.

TANGO 265 proteins and nucleic acid molecules encoding them comprise a family of molecules having certain conserved structural and functional features.

A common domain present in TANGO 265 proteins is a signal sequence. As used herein, a signal sequence includes a peptide of at least about 10 amino acid residues in length which occurs at the amino terminus of membrane-bound proteins and which contains at least about 45% hydrophobic amino acid residues such as alanine, leucine, isoleucine, phenylalanine, proline, tyrosine, tryptophan, or valine. In a preferred embodiment, a signal sequence contains at least about 10 to 35 amino acid residues, preferably about 10 to 20 amino acid residues, and has at least about 35-60%, more preferably 40-50%, and more preferably at least about 45% hydrophobic residues. A signal sequence serves to direct a protein containing such a sequence to a

lipid bilayer. Thus, in one embodiment, a TANGO 265 protein contains a signal sequence corresponding to amino acid residues 1 to 31 of SEQ ID NO: 19 (SEQ ID NO: 20). The signal sequence is cleaved during processing of the mature protein.

5 TANGO 265 proteins can also include an extracellular domain. The human TANGO 265 protein extracellular domain is located from about amino acid residue 32 to about amino acid residue 683 of SEQ ID NO: 17. TANGO 265 can alternately exist in a secreted form, such as a mature protein having the amino acid sequence of amino acid residues 32 to 761 or residues 32 to about 683 of SEQ ID NO: 19.

10 TANGO 265 proteins can also include a transmembrane domain. In one embodiment, a TANGO 265 protein of the invention contains a transmembrane domain corresponding to about amino acid residues 684 to 704 of SEQ ID NO: 19 (SEQ ID NO: 23).

15 In addition, TANGO 265 proteins include a cytoplasmic domain, particularly including proteins having a carboxyl-terminal cytoplasmic domain. The human TANGO 265 cytoplasmic domain is located from about amino acid residue 705 to amino acid residue 761 of SEQ ID NO: 19 (SEQ ID NO: 24).

20 TANGO 265 proteins typically comprise a variety of potential post-translational modification sites (often within an extracellular domain), such as those described herein in Table VI, as predicted by computerized sequence analysis of TANGO 265 proteins using amino acid sequence comparison software (comparing the amino acid sequence of TANGO 265 with the information in the PROSITE database {rel. 12.2; Feb, 1995} and the Hidden Markov Models database {Rel. PFAM 3.3}). In certain embodiments, a protein of the invention has at least 1, 2, 4, 6, 10, 15, or 20 or
25 more of the post-translational modification sites listed in Table VI.

Table VI

Type of Potential Modification Site or Domain	Amino Acid Residues of SEQ ID NO: 19	Amino Acid Sequence
N-glycosylation site	120 to 123 135 to 138 496 to 499 607 to 610	NETQ NVTH NCSV NGLS
Glycosaminoglycan attachment site	70 to 73	SGDG
cAMP- or cGMP-dependent protein kinase phosphorylation site	108 to 111 116 to 119 281 to 284	RKKS KKKS KKWT
Protein kinase C phosphorylation site	106 to 108 262 to 264 361 to 363 366 to 368 385 to 387 533 to 535 555 to 557 721 to 723 738 to 740	SDR TSR TSR TYR SDK SWK SLR TLR SPK
Casein kinase II phosphorylation site	152 to 155 176 to 179 250 to 253 342 to 345 411 to 414 498 to 501 502 to 505 574 to 577 738 to 741 745 to 748	TFIE SPFD TASE SLLD SGVE SVYE SCVD SILE SPKE SASD

Table VI (Continued)

N-myristoylation site	79 to 84	GAREAI
	191 to 196	GMLYSG
	331 to 336	GGTRSS
	412 to 417	GVEYTR
	437 to 442	GTTTGS
	620 to 625	GLYQCW
	671 to 676	GAALAA
Sema domain	64 to 478	See Fig. 3

An exemplary domains which occurs in TANGO 265 proteins is a sema domain. In one embodiment, the protein of the invention has at least one domain that is at least 55%, preferably at least about 65%, more preferably at least about 75%, yet more preferably at least about 85%, and most preferably at least about 95% identical to one of the sema domains described herein in Table VI.

Sema domains occur in semaphorin proteins. Semaphorins are a large family of secreted and transmembrane proteins, some of which function as repellent signals during neural axon guidance. The sema domain and a variety of semaphorin proteins in which it occurs are described, for example, in Winberg et al. (1998 *Cell* 95:903-916). Sema domains also occur in human hepatocyte growth factor receptor (Swissprot Accession no. P08581) and the similar neuronal and epithelial transmembrane receptor protein (Swissprot Accession no. P51805). The presence of an sema domain in human TANGO 265 protein indicates that TANGO 265 is involved in one or more physiological processes in which the semaphorins are involved, has biological activity in common with one or more of the semaphorins, or both.

Human TANGO 265 protein exhibits considerable sequence similarity to murine semaphorin B protein (GenBank Accession no. X85991), as indicated herein in Figure 3D. Figure 3D depicts an alignment of the amino acid sequences of human TANGO 265 protein (SEQ ID NO: 19) and murine semaphorin B protein (SEQ ID NO: 76). In this alignment (pam120.mat scoring matrix, gap penalties -12/-4), the amino acid sequences of the proteins are 82.3% identical. Figures 3E through 3H depict an alignment of the nucleotide sequences of cDNA encoding human TANGO 265 protein

(SEQ ID NOs: 17) and murine cDNA encoding semaphorin B protein (SEQ ID NO: 77). In this alignment (pam120.mat scoring matrix, gap penalties -12/-4), the nucleic acid sequences of the cDNAs are 76.2% identical. Thus, TANGO 265 is the human orthologue of murine semaphorin B and shares functional similarities to that protein.

It is known that semaphorins are bifunctional, capable of functioning either as attractive axonal guidance proteins or as repellent axonal guidance proteins (Wong et al. (1997) *Development* 124:3597-3607). Furthermore, semaphorins bind with neuronal cell surface proteins designated plexins, which are expressed on both neuronal cells and cells of the immune system (Comeau et al. (1998) *Immunity* 8:473-482; Jin and Strittmatter (1997) *J. Neurosci.* 17:6256-6263).

The signal peptide prediction program SIGNALP (Nielsen et al. (1997) *Protein Engineering* 10:1-6) predicted that human TANGO 265 protein includes a 31 amino acid signal peptide (amino acid residues 1 to 31 of SEQ ID NO: 19; SEQ ID NO: 20) preceding the mature TANGO 265 protein (amino acid residues 32 to 761 of SEQ ID NO: 19; SEQ ID NO: 21). Human TANGO 265 protein includes an extracellular domain (amino acid residues 32 to 683 of SEQ ID NO: 19; SEQ ID NO: 22); a transmembrane domain (amino acid residues 684 to 704 of SEQ ID NO: 19; SEQ ID NO: 23); and a cytoplasmic domain (amino acid residues 705 to 761 of SEQ ID NO: 19; SEQ ID NO: 24).

Figure 3I depicts a hydrophilicity plot of human TANGO 265 protein. Relatively hydrophobic regions are above the dashed horizontal line, and relatively hydrophilic regions are below the dashed horizontal line. The hydrophobic region which corresponds to amino acid residues 1 to 31 of SEQ ID NO: 19 is the signal sequence of human TANGO 265 (SEQ ID NO: 20). The hydrophobic region which corresponds to amino acid residues 684 to 704 of SEQ ID NO: 19 is the transmembrane domain of human TANGO 265 (SEQ ID NO: 23). As described elsewhere herein, relatively hydrophilic regions are generally located at or near the surface of a protein, and are more frequently effective immunogenic epitopes than are relatively hydrophobic regions. For example, the region of human TANGO 265 protein from about amino acid residue 350 to about amino acid residue 375 appears to be located at

or near the surface of the protein, while the region from about amino acid residue 230 to about amino acid residue 250 appears not to be located at or near the surface.

The predicted molecular weight of human TANGO 265 protein without modification and prior to cleavage of the signal sequence is about 83.6 kilodaltons.

5 The predicted molecular weight of the mature human TANGO 265 protein without modification and after cleavage of the signal sequence is about 80.2 kilodaltons.

Chromosomal mapping was performed by computerized comparison of TANGO 265 cDNA sequences against a chromosomal mapping database in order to identify the approximate location of the gene encoding human TANGO 265 protein.

10 This analysis indicated that the gene was located on chromosome 1 between markers D1S305 and D1S2635.

Biological function of TANGO 265 proteins, nucleic acids encoding them, and modulators of these molecules

15 TANGO 265 proteins are involved in disorders which affect both tissues in which they are normally expressed and tissues in which they are normally not expressed. Based on the observation that TANGO 265 is expressed in human fetal spleen, involvement of TANGO 202 protein in immune system development and modulation is indicated.

20 The presence of the sema domain in TANGO 265 indicates that this protein is involved in development of neuronal and epithelial tissues and also functions as a repellant protein which guides axonal development. TANGO 265 modulates nerve growth and regeneration and also modulates growth and regeneration of other epithelial tissues.

25 The observation that TANGO 265 shares significant identity with murine semaphorin B suggests that it has activity identical or analogous to the activity of this protein. These observations indicate that TANGO 265 modulates growth, proliferation, survival, differentiation, and activity of neuronal cells and immune system cells. Thus, TANGO 265 protein is useful, for example, for guiding neural axon development, for modulating differentiation of cells of the immune system, for

modulating cytokine production by cells of the immune system, for modulating reactivity of cells of the immune system toward cytokines, for modulating initiation and persistence of an inflammatory response, and for modulating proliferation of epithelial cells.

5

TANGO 273

A cDNA encoding at least a portion of human TANGO 273 protein was isolated from a lipopolysaccharide- (LPS-)stimulated human osteoblast cDNA library. The corresponding murine cDNA was isolated from an LPS-stimulated murine osteoblast cDNA library. The human and murine TANGO 273 proteins are predicted by structural analysis to be transmembrane proteins.

10

The full length of the cDNA encoding human TANGO 273 protein (Figure 4; SEQ ID NO: 25) is 2964 nucleotide residues. The ORF of this cDNA, nucleotide residues 135 to 650 of SEQ ID NO: 25 (i.e. SEQ ID NO: 26), encodes a 172-amino acid transmembrane protein (Figure 4; SEQ ID NO: 27).

15

The invention thus includes purified human TANGO 273 protein, both in the form of the immature 172 amino acid residue protein (SEQ ID NO: 27) and in the form of the mature 150 amino acid residue protein (SEQ ID NO: 29). The invention also includes purified murine TANGO 273 protein, both in the form of the immature 172 amino acid residue protein (SEQ ID NO: 74) and in the form of the mature 150 amino acid residue protein (SEQ ID NO: 44). Mature human or murine TANGO 273 proteins can be synthesized without the signal sequence polypeptide at the amino terminus thereof, or they can be synthesized by generating immature TANGO 273 protein and cleaving the signal sequence therefrom.

20

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In addition to full length mature and immature human and murine TANGO 273 proteins, the invention includes fragments, derivatives, and variants of these TANGO 273 proteins, as described herein. These proteins, fragments, derivatives, and variants are collectively referred to herein as polypeptides of the invention or proteins of the invention.

The invention also includes nucleic acid molecules which encode a polypeptide of the invention. Such nucleic acids include, for example, a DNA molecule having the nucleotide sequence listed in SEQ ID NO: 25 or some portion thereof or SEQ ID NO: 73 or some portion thereof, such as the portion which encodes mature TANGO 273 protein, immature TANGO 273 protein, or a domain of TANGO 273 protein. These nucleic acids are collectively referred to as nucleic acids of the invention.

TANGO 273 proteins and nucleic acid molecules encoding them comprise a family of molecules having certain conserved structural and functional features. This family includes, by way of example, the human and murine TANGO 273 proteins.

A common domain of TANGO 273 proteins is a signal sequence. As used herein, a signal sequence includes a peptide of at least about 10 amino acid residues in length which occurs at the amino terminus of membrane-bound proteins and which contains at least about 45% hydrophobic amino acid residues such as alanine, leucine, isoleucine, phenylalanine, proline, tyrosine, tryptophan, or valine. In a preferred embodiment, a signal sequence contains at least about 10 to 35 amino acid residues, preferably about 10 to 20 amino acid residues, and has at least about 35-60%, more preferably 40-50%, and more preferably at least about 45% hydrophobic residues. A signal sequence serves to direct a protein containing such a sequence to a lipid bilayer. Thus, in one embodiment, a TANGO 273 protein contains a signal sequence corresponding to amino acid residues 1 to 22 of SEQ ID NO: 27 (SEQ ID NO: 28) or to amino acid residues 1 to 22 of SEQ ID NO: 74. The signal sequence is cleaved during processing of the mature protein.

TANGO 273 proteins can also include an extracellular domain. The human TANGO 273 protein extracellular domain is located from about amino acid residue 23 to about amino acid residue 60 of SEQ ID NO: 27, and the murine TANGO 273 protein extracellular domain is located from about amino acid residue 23 to about amino acid residue 60 of SEQ ID NO: 74.

The present invention also includes TANGO 273 proteins having a transmembrane domain. As used herein, a "transmembrane domain" refers to an amino acid sequence having at least about 15 to 30 amino acid residues in length and which contains at least about 65-70% hydrophobic amino acid residues such as alanine, leucine, phenylalanine, protein, tyrosine, tryptophan, or valine. In a preferred embodiment, a transmembrane domain contains at least about 15 to 20 amino acid residues, preferably about 20 to 25 amino acid residues, and has at least about 60-80%, more preferably 65-75%, and more preferably at least about 70% hydrophobic residues. Thus, in one embodiment, a human TANGO 273 protein of the invention contains a transmembrane domain corresponding to about amino acid residues 61 to 81 of SEQ ID NO: 27 (SEQ ID NO: 31). In another embodiment, a murine TANGO 273 protein of the invention contains a transmembrane domain corresponding to about amino acid residues 61 to 81 of SEQ ID NO: 74.

In addition, TANGO 273 proteins include a cytoplasmic domain. The human TANGO 273 cytoplasmic domain is located from about amino acid residue 82 to amino acid residue 172 of SEQ ID NO: 27 (SEQ ID NO: 32), and the murine TANGO 273 cytoplasmic domain is located from about amino acid residue 82 to amino acid residue 172 of SEQ ID NO: 74.

TANGO 273 proteins typically comprise a variety of potential post-translational modification sites (often within an extracellular domain), such as those described herein in Tables VII and VIII, as predicted by computerized sequence analysis of human and murine TANGO 273 proteins using amino acid sequence comparison software (comparing the amino acid sequence of TANGO 273 with the information in the PROSITE database {rel. 12.2; Feb, 1995} and the Hidden Markov Models database {Rel. PFAM 3.3}). In certain embodiments, a protein of the invention has at least 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or all 6 of the post-translational modification sites listed in Table VII. In other embodiments, the protein of the invention has at least 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, or all 7 of the post-translational modification sites listed in Table VIII.

Table VII

Type of Potential Modification Site or Domain	Amino Acid Residues of SEQ ID NO: 27	Amino Acid Sequence
N-glycosylation site	97 to 100	NVSY
Casein kinase II phosphorylation site	41 to 44	SYED
N-myristoylation site	31 to 36	GLYPTY
	47 to 52	GSRCCV
	70 to 75	GVL FCC
	131 to 136	GNSMAM
Src Homology 3 (SH3) domain binding site	86 to 90	YPPPL
	103 to 107	QPPNP
	113 to 117	QPGPP
	121 to 125	DPGGP
	140 to 145	VPPNSP
	151 to 155	CPPPP
	160 to 164	TPPPP

Table VIII

Type of Potential Modification Site or Domain	Amino Acid Residues of SEQ ID NO: 74	Amino Acid Sequence
N-glycosylation site	97 to 100	NVSY
Casein kinase II phosphorylation site	41 to 44	SYED
N-myristoylation site	31 to 36	GLYPTY
	47 to 52	GSRCCV
	70 to 75	GVL FCC
	131 to 136	GNTMAM

Table VIII (Cont'd)

Src Homology 3 (SH3) domain binding site	86 to 90	YPPPL
	103 to 107	QPPNP
	115 to 119	GPPYY
	121 to 125	DPGGP
	141 to 145	QPNSP
	151 to 155	YPPPP
	160 to 164	TPPPP
Amidation site	1 to 4	MGRR

The amino acid sequence of TANGO 273 protein includes about seven potential proline-rich Src homology 3 (SH3) domain binding sites nearer the cytoplasmic portion of the protein. SH3 domains mediate specific assembly of protein complexes, presumably by interacting with proline-rich protein domains (Morton and Campbell (1994) *Curr. Biol.* 4:615-617). SH3 domains also mediate interactions between proteins involved in transmembrane signal transduction. Coupling of proteins mediated by SH3 domains has been implicated in a variety of physiological systems, including those involving regulation of cell growth and proliferation, endocytosis, and activation of respiratory burst.

SH3 domains have been described in the art (e.g. Mayer et al. (1988) *Nature* 332:272-275; Musacchio et al. (1992) *FEBS Lett.* 307:55-61; Pawson and Schlessinger (1993) *Curr. Biol.* 3:434-442; Mayer and Baltimore (1993) *Trends Cell Biol.* 3:8-13; Pawson (1993) *Nature* 373:573-580), and occur in a variety of cytoplasmic proteins, including several (e.g. protein tyrosine kinases) involved in transmembrane signal transduction. Among the proteins in which one or more SH3 domains occur are protein tyrosine kinases such as those of the Src, Abl, Bkt, Csk and ZAP70 families, mammalian phosphatidylinositol-specific phospholipases C-gamma-1 and -2, mammalian phosphatidylinositol 3-kinase regulatory p85 subunit, mammalian Ras GTPase-activating protein (GAP), proteins which mediate binding of guanine

nucleotide exchange factors and growth factor receptors (e.g. vertebrate GRB2, *Caenorhabditis elegans* sem-5, and *Drosophila* DRK proteins), mammalian Vav oncoprotein, guanidine nucleotide releasing factors of the CDC 25 family (e.g. yeast CDC25, yeast SCD25, and fission yeast ste6 proteins), MAGUK proteins (e.g. mammalian tight junction protein ZO-1, vertebrate erythrocyte membrane protein p55, *C. elegans* protein lin-2, rat protein CASK, and mammalian synaptic proteins SAP90/PSD-95, CHAPSYN-110/PSD-93, SAP97/DLG1, and SAP102), proteins which interact with vertebrate receptor protein tyrosine kinases (e.g. mammalian cytoplasmic protein Nck and oncoprotein Crk), chicken Src substrate p80/85 protein (cortactin), human hemopoietic lineage cell specific protein Hs1, mammalian dihydropyridine-sensitive L-type calcium channel beta subunit, human myasthenic syndrome antigen B (MSYB), mammalian neutrophil cytosolic activators of NADPH oxidase (e.g. p47 {NCF-1}, p67 {NCF-2}, and *C. elegans* protein B0303.7) myosin heavy chains (MYO3) from amoebae, from slime molds, and from yeast, vertebrate and *Drosophila* spectrin and fodrin alpha chain proteins, human amphiphysin, yeast actin-binding proteins ABP1 and SLA3, yeast protein BEM1, fission yeast protein scd2 (ral3), yeast BEM1-binding proteins BOI2 (BEB1) and BOB1 (BOI1), yeast fusion protein FUS1, yeast protein RSV167, yeast protein SSU81, yeast hypothetical proteins YAR014c, YFR024c, YHL002w, YHR016c, YJL020C, and YHR114w, hypothetical fission yeast protein SpAC12C2.05c, and *C. elegans* hypothetical protein F42H10.3. Of these proteins, multiple SH3 domains occur in vertebrate GRB2 protein, *C. elegans* sem-5 protein, *Drosophila* DRK protein, oncoprotein Crk, mammalian neutrophil cytosolic activators of NADPH oxidase p47 and p67, yeast protein BEM1, fission yeast protein scd2, yeast hypothetical protein YHR114w, mammalian cytoplasmic protein Nck, *C. elegans* neutrophil cytosolic activator of NADPH oxidase B0303.7, and yeast actin-binding protein SLA1. Of these proteins, three or more SH3 domains occur in mammalian cytoplasmic protein Nck, *C. elegans* neutrophil cytosolic activator of NADPH oxidase B0303.7, and yeast actin-binding protein SLA1. The presence of SH3 domain binding sites in TANGO 273 indicates that TANGO 273 interacts with one or more of these and other SH3 domain-containing proteins and is thus involved in

physiological processes in which one or more of these or other SH3 domain-containing proteins are involved.

The signal peptide prediction program SIGNALP (Nielsen et al. (1997) *Protein Engineering* 10:1-6) predicted that human TANGO 273 protein includes a 22 amino acid signal peptide (amino acid residues 1 to 22 of SEQ ID NO: 27; SEQ ID NO: 28) preceding the mature TANGO 273 protein (amino acid residues 23 to 172 of SEQ ID NO: 27; SEQ ID NO: 29). Human TANGO 273 protein includes an extracellular domain (amino acid residues 23 to 60 of SEQ ID NO: 27; SEQ ID NO: 30); a transmembrane domain (amino acid residues 61 to 81 of SEQ ID NO: 27; SEQ ID NO: 31); and a cytoplasmic domain (amino acid residues 82 to 172 of SEQ ID NO: 27; SEQ ID NO: 32).

Figure 4F depicts a hydrophilicity plot of human TANGO 273 protein. Relatively hydrophobic regions are above the dashed horizontal line, and relatively hydrophilic regions are below the dashed horizontal line. The hydrophobic region which corresponds to amino acid residues 1 to 22 of SEQ ID NO: 27 is the signal sequence of human TANGO 273 (SEQ ID NO: 28). The hydrophobic region which corresponds to amino acid residues 61 to 81 of SEQ ID NO: 27 is the transmembrane domain of human TANGO 273 (SEQ ID NO: 31). As described elsewhere herein, relatively hydrophilic regions are generally located at or near the surface of a protein, and are more frequently effective immunogenic epitopes than are relatively hydrophobic regions. For example, the region of human TANGO 273 protein from about amino acid residue 100 to about amino acid residue 120 appears to be located at or near the surface of the protein, while the region from about amino acid residue 130 to about amino acid residue 140 appears not to be located at or near the surface.

Chromosomal mapping was performed by computerized comparison of TANGO 273 cDNA sequences against a chromosomal mapping database in order to identify the approximate location of the gene encoding human TANGO 265 protein. This analysis indicated that the gene was located on chromosome 7 between markers D7S2467 and D7S2552.

The predicted molecular weight of human TANGO 273 protein without modification and prior to cleavage of the signal sequence is about 19.2 kilodaltons. The predicted molecular weight of the mature human TANGO 273 protein without modification and after cleavage of the signal sequence is about 16.8 kilodaltons.

5 The full length of the cDNA encoding murine TANGO 273 protein (Figure 4; SEQ ID NO: 72) is 2915 nucleotide residues. The ORF of this cDNA, nucleotide residues 137 to 650 of SEQ ID NO: 72 (i.e. SEQ ID NO: 73), encodes a 172-amino acid transmembrane protein (Figure 4; SEQ ID NO: 74).

10 The signal peptide prediction program SIGNALP (Nielsen et al. (1997) *Protein Engineering* 10:1-6) predicted that murine TANGO 273 protein includes a 22 amino acid signal peptide (amino acid residues 1 to 22 of SEQ ID NO: 74) preceding the mature TANGO 273 protein (amino acid residues 23 to 172 of SEQ ID NO: 74; SEQ ID NO: 44). Murine TANGO 273 protein includes an extracellular domain (amino acid residues 23 to 60 of SEQ ID NO: 74); a transmembrane domain (amino acid residues 61 to 81 of SEQ ID NO: 74); and a cytoplasmic domain (amino acid residues 82 to 172 of SEQ ID NO: 74).

15 Figure 4G depicts a hydrophilicity plot of murine TANGO 273 protein. Relatively hydrophobic regions are above the dashed horizontal line, and relatively hydrophilic regions are below the dashed horizontal line. The hydrophobic region which corresponds to amino acid residues 1 to 22 of SEQ ID NO: 74 is the signal sequence of murine TANGO 273. As described elsewhere herein, relatively hydrophilic regions are generally located at or near the surface of a protein, and are more frequently effective immunogenic epitopes than are relatively hydrophobic regions. For example, the region of murine TANGO 273 protein from about amino acid residue 100 to about amino acid residue 120 appears to be located at or near the surface of the protein, while the region from about amino acid residue 130 to about amino acid residue 140 appears not to be located at or near the surface.

25 The predicted molecular weight of murine TANGO 273 protein without modification and prior to cleavage of the signal sequence is about 19.4 kilodaltons.

The predicted molecular weight of the mature murine TANGO 273 protein without modification and after cleavage of the signal sequence is about 17.1 kilodaltons.

Human and murine TANGO 273 proteins exhibit considerable sequence similarity, as indicated herein in Figure 4E. Figure 4E depicts an alignment of human and murine TANGO 273 protein amino acid sequences (SEQ ID NOs: 27 and 74, respectively). In this alignment (pam120.mat scoring matrix, gap penalties -12/-4), the proteins are 89.5% identical. Alignment of the ORF encoding human TANGO 273 protein and the ORF encoding murine TANGO 273 protein using the same software and parameters indicated that the nucleotide sequences are 84.1% identical.

Biological function of TANGO 273 proteins, nucleic acids encoding them, and modulators of these molecules

cDNAs encoding the human and murine TANGO 273 proteins were each isolated from LPS-stimulated osteoblast cDNA libraries. These proteins are involved in bone-related metabolism, homeostasis, and development disorders. Thus, proteins and nucleic acids of the invention which are identical to, similar to, or derived from human and murine TANGO 273 proteins and nucleic acids encoding them are useful for preventing, diagnosing, and treating, among others, bone-related disorders such as osteoporosis, cancer, skeletal development disorders, bone fragility, and the like.

The fact that TANGO 273 is expressed in tissues which were exposed to LPS indicates that TANGO 273 mediates one or more physiological responses of cells to bacterial infection. Thus, TANGO 273 is involved in one or more of detection of bacteria in a tissue in which it is expressed, movement of cells with relation to sites of bacterial infection, production of biological molecules which inhibit bacterial infection, and production of biological molecules which alleviate cellular or other physiological damage wrought by bacterial infection.

Occurrence in TANGO 273 protein of multiple SH3 domain binding sites indicates that TANGO 273 protein interacts with one or more SH3 domain-

containing proteins. Thus, TANGO 273 protein mediates binding of proteins (i.e. binding of proteins to TANGO 273 and to one another to form protein complexes) in cells in which it is expressed. TANGO 273 is also involved in transduction of signals between the exterior environment of cells (i.e. including from other cells) and the interior of cells in which it is expressed. TANGO 273 mediates regulation of cell growth and proliferation, endocytosis, activation of respiratory burst, and other physiological processes triggered by transmission of a signal via a protein with which TANGO 273 interacts.

TANGO 286

A cDNA encoding at least a portion of human TANGO 286 protein was isolated from a human keratinocyte cDNA library. The human TANGO 286 protein is predicted by structural analysis to be a secreted protein.

The full length of the cDNA encoding TANGO 286 protein (Figure 5; SEQ ID NO: 33) is 1980 nucleotide residues. The ORF of this cDNA, nucleotide residues 133 to 1497 of SEQ ID NO: 33 (i.e. SEQ ID NO: 34), encodes a 455-amino acid secreted protein (Figure 5; SEQ ID NO: 35).

The invention thus includes purified TANGO 286 protein, both in the form of the immature 455 amino acid residue protein (SEQ ID NO: 35) and in the form of the mature 432 amino acid residue protein (SEQ ID NO: 37). Mature TANGO 286 protein can be synthesized without the signal sequence polypeptide at the amino terminus thereof, or it can be synthesized by generating immature TANGO 286 protein and cleaving the signal sequence therefrom.

In addition to full length mature and immature TANGO 286 proteins, the invention includes fragments, derivatives, and variants of these TANGO 286 proteins, as described herein. These proteins, fragments, derivatives, and variants are collectively referred to herein as polypeptides of the invention or proteins of the invention.

The invention also includes nucleic acid molecules which encode a polypeptide of the invention. Such nucleic acids include, for example, a DNA

molecule having the nucleotide sequence listed in SEQ ID NO: 33 or some portion thereof, such as the portion which encodes mature TANGO 286 protein, immature TANGO 286 protein, or a domain of TANGO 286 protein. These nucleic acids are collectively referred to as nucleic acids of the invention.

5 TANGO 286 proteins and nucleic acid molecules encoding them comprise a family of molecules having certain conserved structural and functional features.

A common domain of TANGO 286 proteins is a signal sequence. As used herein, a signal sequence includes a peptide of at least about 10 amino acid
10 residues in length which occurs at the amino terminus of membrane-bound proteins and which contains at least about 45% hydrophobic amino acid residues such as alanine, leucine, isoleucine, phenylalanine, proline, tyrosine, tryptophan, or valine. In a preferred embodiment, a signal sequence contains at least about 10 to 35 amino acid residues, preferably about 10 to 20 amino acid residues, and has at least about 35-60%,
15 more preferably 40-50%, and more preferably at least about 45% hydrophobic residues. A signal sequence serves to direct a protein containing such a sequence to a lipid bilayer. Thus, in one embodiment, a TANGO 286 protein contains a signal sequence corresponding to amino acid residues 1 to 23 of SEQ ID NO: 35 (SEQ ID NO: 36). The signal sequence is cleaved during processing of the mature protein.

20 TANGO 286 is a secreted soluble protein (i.e. a secreted protein having a single extracellular domain), as indicated by computerized sequence analysis and comparison of the amino acid sequence of TANGO 286 with related proteins, such as the soluble proteins designated bactericidal permeability increasing (BPI) protein and recombinant endotoxin neutralizing polypeptide (RENK).

25 TANGO 286 proteins typically comprise a variety of potential post-translational modification sites (often within an extracellular domain), such as those described herein in Table IX, as predicted by computerized sequence analysis of TANGO 286 proteins using amino acid sequence comparison software (comparing the amino acid sequence of TANGO 286 with the information in the PROSITE database
30 {rel. 12.2; Feb, 1995} and the Hidden Markov Models database {Rel. PFAM 3.3}). In

certain embodiments, a protein of the invention has at least 1, 2, 4, 6, 10, 15, or 20 or more of the post-translational modification sites listed in Table IX.

Table IX

Type of Potential Modification Site or Domain	Amino Acid Residues of SEQ ID NO: 35	Amino Acid Sequence
N-glycosylation site	79 to 82	NFSN
	92 to 95	NTSL
	113 to 116	NIST
	161 to 164	NLST
	173 to 176	NYTL
	205 to 208	NLTD
	249 to 252	NLTL
	303 to 306	NFTL
	320 to 323	NSTV
	363 to 366	NRSN
Protein kinase C phosphorylation site	35 to 37	TQR
	362 to 364	SNR
	429 to 431	SSK
Casein kinase II phosphorylation site	63 to 66	SGSE
	130 to 133	SFAE
	163 to 166	STLE
	169 to 172	TKID
	175 to 178	TLLD
	183 to 186	SSPE
	253 to 256	STEE
	321 to 324	STVE
	365 to 368	SNIE
	409 to 412	SDIE

Table IX (Cont'd)

N-myristoylation site	42 to 47	GVQAGM
	269 to 274	GNVLSR
Lipid-binding serum glycoprotein domain	12 to 427	see Fig. 5

Certain lipid-binding serum glycoproteins, such as LPS-binding protein (LBP), bactericidal permeability-increasing protein (BPI), cholesteryl ester transfer protein (CETP), and phospholipid transfer protein (PLTP), share regions of sequence similarity which are herein designated a lipid-binding serum glycoprotein domain (Schumann et al., (1990) *Science* 249:1429-1431; Gray et al., (1989) *J. Biol. Chem.* 264:9505-9509; Day et al., (1994) *J. Biol. Chem.* 269:9388-9391). The consensus pattern of lipid-binding serum glycoprotein domains is as follows (using standard single letter amino acid abbreviations wherein X is any amino acid residue).

-(P or A)-(G or A)-(L or I or V or M or C)-X₂-R-(I or V)-(S or T)-
X₃-L-X_(4 or 5)-(E or Q)-X₄-(L or I or V or M)-X_(0 or 1)-(E or Q or K)-X₈-P-
(e.g. amino acid residues 28-60 of SEQ ID NO: 35)

Proteins in which a lipid-binding serum glycoprotein domain occurs are often structurally related and exhibit related physiological activities. LBP binds to lipid A moieties of bacterial LPS and, once bound thereto, induces secretion of α -tumor necrosis factor, apparently by interacting with the CD14 receptor. BPI also binds LPS and exerts a cytotoxic effect on Gram-negative bacteria (Elsbach, (1998) *J. Leukoc. Biol.* 64:14-18). CETP is involved in transfer of insoluble cholesteryl esters during reverse cholesterol transport. PLTP appears to be involved in phospholipid transport and modulation of serum HDL particles.

The signal peptide prediction program SIGNALP (Nielsen et al. (1997) *Protein Engineering* 10:1-6) predicted that TANGO 286 protein includes a 23 amino acid signal peptide (amino acid residues 1 to 23 of SEQ ID NO: 35; SEQ ID NO: 36) preceding the mature TANGO 286 protein (amino acid residues 24 to 455 of SEQ ID NO: 35; SEQ ID NO: 37). Human TANGO 286 protein is a secreted soluble protein.

Figure 5C depicts a hydrophilicity plot of TANGO 286 protein.

Relatively hydrophobic regions are above the dashed horizontal line, and relatively hydrophilic regions are below the dashed horizontal line. As described elsewhere herein, relatively hydrophilic regions are generally located at or near the surface of a protein, and are more frequently effective immunogenic epitopes than are relatively hydrophobic regions. For example, the region of human TANGO 286 protein from about amino acid residue 420 to about amino acid residue 435 appears to be located at or near the surface of the protein, while the region from about amino acid residue 325 to about amino acid residue 345 appears not to be located at or near the surface.

The predicted molecular weight of TANGO 286 protein without modification and prior to cleavage of the signal sequence is about 50.9 kilodaltons. The predicted molecular weight of the mature TANGO 286 protein without modification and after cleavage of the signal sequence is about 48.2 kilodaltons.

The gene encoding human TANGO 286 protein was determined to be located on chromosome 22 by comparison of matching genomic clones such as the clones assigned GenBank Accession numbers W16806 and AL021937.

A portion of TANGO 286 protein exhibits significant amino acid homology with a region of the human chromosome region 22q12-13 genomic nucleotide sequence having GenBank Accession number AL021937. Alignment of a 45 kilobase nucleotide sequence encoding TANGO 286 with AL021937, however, indicated the presence in TANGO 286 of exons which differ from those disclosed in L021937 (pam120.mat scoring matrix; gap penalties -12/-4). This region of chromosome 22 comprises an immunoglobulin lambda chain C (IGLC) pseudogene, the Ret finger protein-like 3 (RFPL3) and Ret finger protein-like 3 antisense (RFPL3S) genes, a gene encoding a novel immunoglobulin lambda chain V family protein, a novel gene encoding a protein similar both to mouse RGDS protein (RALGDS, RALGEF, guanine nucleotide dissociation stimulator A) and to rabbit oncogene RSC, a novel gene encoding the human orthologue of worm F16A11.2 protein, a novel gene encoding a protein similar both to BPI and to rabbit liposaccharide-binding protein, and a 5'-portion of a novel gene. This region also comprises various ESTs, STSs, GSSs,

genomic marker D22S1175, a ca repeat polymorphism and putative CpG islands. TANGO 286 protein thus shares one or more structural or functional features of these molecules.

TANGO 286 protein exhibits considerable sequence similarity with BPI protein, having 23.9% amino acid sequence identity therewith, as assessed using the ALIGN v. 2.0 computer software using a pam120.mat scoring matrix and gap penalties of -12/-4. TANGO 286 protein also exhibits considerable sequence similarity with recombinant endotoxin neutralizing polypeptide (RENP), having 24.5% amino acid sequence identity therewith, as assessed using the ALIGN software. Physiological activities of BPI protein and RENP have been described (e.g. Gabay et al., (1989) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 86:5610-5614; Elsbach, (1998) *J. Leukoc. Biol.* 64:14-18; Mahadeva et al., (1997) *Chest* 112:1699-1701; International patent application WO96/34873). RENP, for example, binds LPS and neutralizes bacterial endotoxins. BPI, RENP, and other proteins in which a lipid-binding serum glycoprotein domain occurs bind LPS and neutralize bacterial endotoxins, and are therefore useful for preventing, detecting, and treating LPS-related disorders such as shock, disseminated intravascular coagulation, anemia, thrombocytopenia, adult respiratory distress syndrome, renal failure, liver disease, and disorders associated with Gram negative bacterial infections. In addition to the physiological conditions described above, BPI protein is known to be involved in vasculitis and bronchiectasis, in that antibodies which bind specifically with BPI protein are present in at least some patients afflicted with these disorders (Mahadeva et al., *supra*).

Biological function of TANGO 286 proteins, nucleic acids encoding them, and modulators of these molecules

Expression of TANGO 286 in keratinocyte library indicates that this protein is involved in a disorders which involve keratinocytes. Such disorders include, for example, disorders involving extracellular matrix abnormalities, dermatological disorders, ocular disorders, inappropriate hair growth (e.g. baldness), infections of the nails of the fingers and toes, scalp disorders (e.g. dandruff), and the like.

The fact that TANGO 286 protein contains a lipid-binding serum glycoprotein domain indicates that TANGO 286 is involved in one or more physiological processes in which these other lipid-binding serum glycoprotein domain-containing proteins are involved. Thus, TANGO 286 is involved in one or more of lipid transport, metabolism, serum lipid particle regulation, host antimicrobial defensive mechanisms, and the like.

Human TANGO 286 shares physiological functionality with other proteins in which a lipid-binding serum glycoprotein domains occurs (e.g. LBP, BPI protein, CETP, and PLTP). Based on the amino acid sequence similarity of TANGO 286 with BPI protein and with RENP, TANGO 286 protein exhibits physiological activities exhibited by these proteins. Thus, TANGO 286 proteins are useful for preventing, diagnosing, and treating, among others, lipid transport disorders, lipid metabolism disorders, disorders of serum lipid particle regulation, obesity, disorders involving insufficient or inappropriate host antimicrobial defensive mechanisms, vasculitis, bronchiectasis, LPS-related disorders such as shock, disseminated intravascular coagulation, anemia, thrombocytopenia, adult respiratory distress syndrome, renal failure, liver disease, and disorders associated with Gram negative bacterial infections, such as bacteremia, endotoxemia, sepsis, and the like.

TANGO 294

A cDNA encoding at least a portion of human TANGO 294 protein was isolated from a human pulmonary artery smooth muscle cell cDNA library. The human

TANGO 294 protein is predicted by structural analysis to be a transmembrane membrane protein. No expression of DNA encoding TANGO 294 was detected in human heart, brain, placenta, lung, liver, skeletal muscle, kidney, or pancreas tissues.

The full length of the cDNA encoding TANGO 294 protein (Figure 6; SEQ ID NO: 45) is 2044 nucleotide residues. The ORF of this cDNA, nucleotide residues 126 to 1394 of SEQ ID NO: 45 (i.e. SEQ ID NO: 46), encodes a 423-amino acid transmembrane protein (Figure 6; SEQ ID NO: 47).

The invention includes purified TANGO 294 protein, both in the form of the immature 423 amino acid residue protein (SEQ ID NO: 47) and in the form of the mature 390 amino acid residue protein (SEQ ID NO: 49). Mature TANGO 294 protein can be synthesized without the signal sequence polypeptide at the amino terminus thereof, or it can be synthesized by generating immature TANGO 294 protein and cleaving the signal sequence therefrom.

In addition to full length mature and immature TANGO 294 proteins, the invention includes fragments, derivatives, and variants of TANGO 294 protein, as described herein. These proteins, fragments, derivatives, and variants are collectively referred to herein as polypeptides of the invention or proteins of the invention.

The invention also includes nucleic acid molecules which encode a polypeptide of the invention. Such nucleic acids include, for example, a DNA molecule having the nucleotide sequence listed in SEQ ID NO: 45 or some portion thereof, such as the portion which encodes mature TANGO 294 protein, immature TANGO 294 protein, or a domain of TANGO 294 protein. These nucleic acids are collectively referred to as nucleic acids of the invention.

TANGO 294 proteins and nucleic acid molecules encoding them comprise a family of molecules having certain conserved structural and functional features.

Also included within the scope of the invention are TANGO 294 proteins having a signal sequence. As used herein, a signal sequence includes a peptide of at least about 10 amino acid residues in length which occurs at the amino terminus of membrane-bound proteins and which contains at least about 45% hydrophobic

amino acid residues such as alanine, leucine, isoleucine, phenylalanine, proline, tyrosine, tryptophan, or valine. In a preferred embodiment, a signal sequence contains at least about 10 to 35 amino acid residues, preferably about 10 to 20 amino acid residues, and has at least about 35-60%, more preferably 40-50%, and more preferably at least about 45% hydrophobic residues. A signal sequence serves to direct a protein containing such a sequence to a lipid bilayer. Thus, in one embodiment, a TANGO 294 protein contains a signal sequence corresponding to amino acid residues 1 to 33 of SEQ ID NO: 47 (SEQ ID NO: 48). The signal sequence is cleaved during processing of the mature protein.

The naturally-occurring form of TANGO 294 protein is a secreted protein (i.e. not comprising the predicted signal sequence). However, in variant forms, TANGO 294 proteins can be transmembrane proteins which include an extracellular domain. In this transmembrane variant form, the predicted TANGO 294 protein extracellular domain is located from about amino acid residue 34 to about amino acid residue 254 of SEQ ID NO: 47, the predicted cytoplasmic domain is located from about amino acid residue 280 to amino acid residue 423 of SEQ ID NO: 47 (SEQ ID NO: 52), and the predicted transmembrane domain is located from about amino acid residues 255 to 279 of SEQ ID NO: 47 (SEQ ID NO: 51).

TANGO 294 proteins typically comprise a variety of potential post-translational modification sites (often within an extracellular domain), such as those described herein in Table X, as predicted by computerized sequence analysis of TANGO 294 proteins using amino acid sequence comparison software (comparing the amino acid sequence of TANGO 294 with the information in the PROSITE database {rel. 12.2; Feb, 1995} and the Hidden Markov Models database {Rel. PFAM 3.3}). In certain embodiments, a protein of the invention has at least 1, 2, 4, 6, 10, 15, or 20 or more of the post-translational modification sites listed in Table X.

Table X

Type of Potential Modification Site or Domain	Amino Acid Residues of SEQ ID NO: 47	Amino Acid Sequence
N-glycosylation site	48 to 51	NISE
	113 to 116	NNSL
	285 to 288	NMSR
	413 to 416	NLSQ
Protein kinase C phosphorylation site	12 to 14	SHR
	138 to 140	SRK
	217 to 219	TVK
Casein kinase II phosphorylation site	155 to 158	SYDE
	175 to 178	TGQE
	198 to 201	TMPE
	360 to 363	SNPE
Tyrosine kinase phosphorylation site	174 to 182	KTGQEKIYY
N-myristoylation site	99 to 104	GLVGGA
	130 to 135	GNSRGN
	188 to 193	GTTMGF
	277 to 282	GGFNTN
Amidation site	240 to 243	FGKK
Lipase serine active site	180 to 189	IYYVGYSQGT
Alpha/beta hydrolase fold domain	125 to 404	See Fig. 6

Alpha/beta hydrolase fold domains occur in a wide variety of enzymes (Ollis et al., (1992) *Protein Eng.* 5:197-211). The alpha/beta fold domain is a conserved topological domain in which sequence homology is not necessarily conserved. Conservation of topology in the alpha/beta fold domain preserves arrangement of catalytic residues, even though those residues, and the reactions they catalyze, can vary. In many enzymes, particularly including alpha/beta hydrolases, this

domain encompasses the active site of the enzyme. In one embodiment, the protein of the invention has at least one domain that is at least 55%, preferably at least about 65%, more preferably at least about 75%, yet more preferably at least about 85%, and most preferably at least about 95% identical to the alpha/beta hydrolase fold domain described herein in Table X.

The signal peptide prediction program SIGNALP (Nielsen et al. (1997) *Protein Engineering* 10:1-6) predicted that human TANGO 294 protein includes a 33 amino acid signal peptide (amino acid residues 1 to 33 of SEQ ID NO: 47; SEQ ID NO: 48) preceding the mature TANGO 294 protein (amino acid residues 34 to 423 of SEQ ID NO: 47; SEQ ID NO: 49). Human TANGO 294 protein is a soluble secreted protein. However, in the transmembrane variant form, human TANGO 294 protein includes an extracellular domain (amino acid residues 34 to 254 of SEQ ID NO: 47; SEQ ID NO: 50); a transmembrane domain (amino acid residues 255 to 279 of SEQ ID NO: 47; SEQ ID NO: 51); and a cytoplasmic domain (amino acid residues 280 to 423 of SEQ ID NO: 47; SEQ ID NO: 52).

Figure 6D depicts a hydrophilicity plot of human TANGO 294 protein. Relatively hydrophobic regions are above the dashed horizontal line, and relatively hydrophilic regions are below the dashed horizontal line. The hydrophobic region which corresponds to amino acid residues 1 to 33 of SEQ ID NO: 47 is the signal sequence of human TANGO 294 (SEQ ID NO: 49). The hydrophobic region which corresponds to amino acid residues 255 to 279 of SEQ ID NO: 47 is the predicted transmembrane domain of human TANGO 294 (SEQ ID NO: 51). As described elsewhere herein, relatively hydrophilic regions are generally located at or near the surface of a protein, and are more frequently effective immunogenic epitopes than are relatively hydrophobic regions. For example, the region of human TANGO 294 protein from about amino acid residue 130 to about amino acid residue 150 appears to be located at or near the surface of the protein, while the region from about amino acid residue 90 to about amino acid residue 100 appears not to be located at or near the surface.

The predicted molecular weight of human TANGO 294 protein without modification and prior to cleavage of the signal sequence is about 48.2 kilodaltons. The predicted molecular weight of the mature human TANGO 294 protein without modification and after cleavage of the signal sequence is about 44.2 kilodaltons.

5 It may be that amino acid residues 1 to 15 of SEQ ID NO: 47 do not occur in TANGO 294 protein. However, it is recognized that amino acid residues 16 to 33 of SEQ ID NO: 47 form a functional signal sequence even in the absence of residues 1 to 15. The amino acid sequence (and hence the properties) of mature TANGO 294 protein are unaffected by occurrence or non-occurrence of amino acid residues 1 to 15 of immature TANGO 294 protein.

10 Human TANGO 294 protein exhibits considerable sequence similarity (i.e. about 75% amino acid sequence identity) to lingual and gastric lipase proteins of rat (Swissprot Accession no. P04634; Docherty et al. (1985) *Nucleic Acids Res.* 13:1891-1903), dog (Swissprot Accession no. P80035; Carriere et al. (1991) *Eur. J. Biochem.* 202:75-83), and human (Swissprot Accession no. P07098; Bernbaeck and Blaekberg (1987) *Biochim. Biophys. Acta* 909:237-244), as assessed using the ALIGN v. 2.0 computer software using a pam12.mat scoring matrix and gap penalties of -12/-4. TANGO 294 is distinct from the known human lipase, as indicated in Figure 6C. Figure 6C depicts an alignment of the amino acid sequences of human TANGO 294 protein (SEQ ID NO: 47) and the known human lipase protein (SEQ ID NO: 75), as assessed using the same software and parameters. In this alignment (pam120.mat scoring matrix, gap penalties -12/-4), the amino acid sequences of the proteins are 49.8% identical. TANGO 294 also is distinct from the known human lysosomal acid lipase, as indicated in Figure 6E. Figure 6E depicts an alignment of the amino acid sequences of human TANGO 294 protein (SEQ ID NO: 47) and the known human lysosomal acid lipase protein (SEQ ID NO: 41). In this alignment (pam120.mat scoring matrix, gap penalties -12/-4), the amino acid sequences of the proteins are 56.9% identical.

25 TANGO 294 is a human lipase distinct from the known human lipase and the known human lysosomal acid lipase. Furthermore, in view of the comparisons

of the amino acid sequences of TANGO 294 and the two human lipases and the nature of transcriptional initiation sites, it is recognized that the transcriptional start site can correspond to either of the methionine residues located at residues 1 and 15 of SEQ ID NO: 47. The present invention thus includes proteins in which the initially transcribed amino acid residue is the methionine residue at position 1 of SEQ ID NO: 47 and proteins in which the initially transcribed amino acid residue is the methionine residue at position 15 of SEQ ID NO: 47 (i.e. proteins in which the amino acid sequence of TANGO 294 does not include residues 1 to 14 of SEQ ID NO: 47). Furthermore, because amino acid residues 1 to 14 of SEQ ID NO: 47 are predicted to be part of a signal sequence, it is recognized that the protein not comprising this portion of the amino acid sequence will nonetheless exhibit a functional signal sequence at its amino terminus.

Biological function of TANGO 294 proteins, nucleic acids encoding them, and modulators of these molecules

The sequence similarity of TANGO 294 and mammalian lingual, gastric, and lysosomal acid lipase proteins indicates that TANGO 294 is involved in physiological processes identical or analogous to those involving these lipases. Thus, TANGO 294 is involved in facilitating absorption and metabolism of fat. TANGO 294 can thus be used, for example, to prevent, detect, and treat disorders relating to fat absorption and metabolism, such as inadequate expression of gastric/pancreatic lipase, cystic fibrosis, exocrine pancreatic insufficiency, obesity, medical treatments which alter fat absorption, and the like.

TANGO 294 protein is known to be expressed in human pulmonary artery smooth muscle tissue. This indicates that TANGO 294 protein is involved in transportation and metabolism of fats and lipids in the human vascular and cardiovascular systems. Thus, TANGO 294 proteins of the invention can be used to prevent, detect, and treat disorders involving these body systems.

INTERCEPT 296

A cDNA encoding at least a portion of human INTERCEPT 296 protein was isolated from a human esophagus cDNA library. The human INTERCEPT 296 protein is predicted by structural analysis to be a transmembrane protein having three or more transmembrane domains. Expression of DNA encoding INTERCEPT 296 tissue has been detected by northern analysis of human lung tissue. In human lung tissue, two moieties corresponding to INTERCEPT 296 have been identified in Northern blots. It is recognized that these two moieties may represent alternatively polyadenylated INTERCEPT 296 mRNAs or alternatively spliced INTERCEPT 296 mRNAs. It has furthermore been observed that INTERCEPT 296 does not appear to be expressed in any of heart, brain, placenta, skeletal muscle, kidney, and pancreas tissues.

The full length of the cDNA encoding INTERCEPT 296 protein (Figure 7; SEQ ID NO: 53) is 2133 nucleotide residues. The ORF of this cDNA, nucleotide residues 70 to 1098 of SEQ ID NO: 53 (i.e. SEQ ID NO: 54), encodes a 343-amino acid transmembrane protein (Figure 7; SEQ ID NO: 55).

The invention includes purified INTERCEPT 296 protein, which has the amino acid sequence listed in SEQ ID NO: 55. In addition to full length INTERCEPT 296 proteins, the invention includes fragments, derivatives, and variants of these INTERCEPT 296 proteins, as described herein. These proteins, fragments, derivatives, and variants are collectively referred to herein as polypeptides of the invention or proteins of the invention.

The invention also includes nucleic acid molecules which encode a polypeptide of the invention. Such nucleic acids include, for example, a DNA molecule having the nucleotide sequence SEQ ID NO: 53 or some portion thereof, such as the portion which encodes INTERCEPT 296 protein or a domain thereof. These nucleic acids are collectively referred to as nucleic acids of the invention.

INTERCEPT 296 proteins and nucleic acid molecules encoding them comprise a family of molecules having certain conserved structural and functional features, such as the five transmembrane domains which occur in the protein.

INTERCEPT 296 comprises at least five transmembrane domains, at least three cytoplasmic domains, and at least two extracellular domains. INTERCEPT 296 does not appear to comprise a cleavable signal sequence. Amino acid residues 1 to 70 of SEQ ID NO: 55 likely directs insertion of the protein into the cytoplasmic membrane. There are at least two mechanisms by which this can occur. Sequence analysis of residues 1 to 70 of SEQ ID NO: 55 indicates that this entire region may represent a signal sequence or that residues 1 to 47 represent a signal sequence, with residues 48-70 representing a transmembrane region. Human INTERCEPT 296 protein extracellular domains are located from about amino acid residue 70 to about amino acid residue 182 (SEQ ID NO: 57) and from about amino acid residue 228 to about amino acid residue 249 (SEQ ID NO: 58) of SEQ ID NO: 55. Human INTERCEPT 296 cytoplasmic domains are located from about amino acid residue 43 to amino acid residue 50 (SEQ ID NO: 64), from about amino acid residue 205 to amino acid residue 210 (SEQ ID NO: 65), and from amino acid residue 272 to amino acid residue 343 (SEQ ID NO: 66) of SEQ ID NO: 55. The five transmembrane domains of INTERCEPT 296 are located from about amino acid residues 24 to 42 (SEQ ID NO: 59), 51 to 70 (SEQ ID NO: 60), 183 to 204 (SEQ ID NO: 61), 211 to 227 (SEQ ID NO: 62), and 250 to 271 (SEQ ID NO: 63) of SEQ ID NO: 55.

INTERCEPT 296 proteins typically comprise a variety of potential post-translational modification sites (often within an extracellular domain), such as those described herein in Table XI, as predicted by computerized sequence analysis of INTERCEPT 296 proteins using amino acid sequence comparison software (comparing the amino acid sequence of INTERCEPT 296 with the information in the PROSITE database {rel. 12.2; Feb, 1995} and the Hidden Markov Models database {Rel. PFAM 3.3}). In certain embodiments, a protein of the invention has at least 1, 2, 4, 6, 10, 15, or 20 or more of the post-translational modification sites listed in Table XI.

Table XI

Type of Potential Modification Site or Domain	Amino Acid Residues of SEQ ID NO: 55	Amino Acid Sequence
N-glycosylation site	71 to 74	NFSS
	84 to 87	NTSY
	109 to 112	NITL
	121 to 124	NETI
	284 to 287	NQSV
Protein kinase C phosphorylation site	86 to 88	SYK
	131 to 133	TWR
	162 to 164	TPR
	304 to 306	SPR
	313 to 315	SPK
	326 to 328	STK
Casein kinase II phosphorylation site	286 to 289	SVDE
	296 to 299	SPEE
	309 to 312	SMAD
Tyrosine kinase phosphorylation site	148 to 156	KGLPDPVL Y
N-myristoylation site	79 to 84	GQVSTN
	100 to 105	GLQVGL
	107 to 112	GVNITL
	265 to 270	GLAMAV

Figure 7C depicts a hydrophilicity plot of INTERCEPT 296 protein. Relatively hydrophobic regions are above the dashed horizontal line, and relatively hydrophilic regions are below the dashed horizontal line. The hydrophobic regions which corresponds to amino acid residues 24 to 42, 51 to 70, 183 to 204, 211 to 227, and 250 to 271 of SEQ ID NO: 55 are the transmembrane domains of human

INTERCEPT 296 (SEQ ID NOs: 59 through 63, respectively). As described elsewhere herein, relatively hydrophilic regions are generally located at or near the surface of a protein, and are more frequently effective immunogenic epitopes than are relatively hydrophobic regions. For example, the region of human INTERCEPT 296 protein from about amino acid residue 120 to about amino acid residue 140 appears to be located at or near the surface of the protein, while the region from about amino acid residue 95 to about amino acid residue 110 appears not to be located at or near the surface.

The predicted molecular weight of INTERCEPT 296 protein without modification and prior to cleavage of the signal sequence is about 37.8 kilodaltons. The predicted molecular weight of the mature INTERCEPT 296 protein without modification and after cleavage of the signal sequence is about 30.2 kilodaltons.

Figure 7D depicts an alignment of the amino acid sequences of human INTERCEPT 296 protein (SEQ ID NO: 55) and *Caenorhabditis elegans* C06E1.3 related protein (SEQ ID NO: 399). In this alignment (pam120.mat scoring matrix, gap penalties -12/-4), the amino acid sequences of the proteins are 26.8% identical. The *C. elegans* protein has five predicted transmembrane domains.

Biological function of INTERCEPT 296 proteins, nucleic acids encoding them, and modulators of these molecules

The cDNA encoding INTERCEPT 296 protein was obtained from a human esophagus cDNA library, and INTERCEPT 296 is expressed in lung tissue. The INTERCEPT 296-related proteins and nucleic acids of the invention are therefore useful for prevention, detection, and treatment of disorders of the human lung and esophagus. Such disorders include, for example, various cancers, bronchitis, cystic fibrosis, respiratory infections (e.g. influenza, bronchiolitis, pneumonia, and tuberculosis), asthma, emphysema, chronic bronchitis, bronchiectasis, pulmonary edema, pleural effusion, pulmonary embolus, adult and infant respiratory distress syndromes, heartburn, and gastric reflux esophageal disease.

Tables A and B summarize sequence data corresponding to the human proteins herein designated TANGO 202, TANGO 234, TANGO 265, TANGO 273, TANGO 286, TANGO 294, and INTERCEPT 296.

Table A

Protein Designation	SEQ ID NOs			Depicted in Figure #	ATCC Accession #
	cDNA	ORF	Protein		
TANGO 202	1	2	3	1	207219
TANGO 234	9	10	11	2	207184
TANGO 265	17	18	19	3	207228
TANGO 273	25	26	27	4	207185
TANGO 286	33	34	35	5	207220
TANGO 294	45	46	47	6	207220
INTERCEPT 296	53	54	55	7	207220

Table B

Protein Desig.	Signal Sequence	Mature Protein	Extracellular Domain(s)	Transmembrane Domain(s)	Cytoplasmic Domain(s)
SEQ ID NOS					
TANGO 202 (variant)	1 to 19 (1 to 19)	20 to 475 (20 to 475)	20 to 392 (20 to 475)	393 to 415 (N/A)	416 to 475 (N/A)
TANGO 234	1 to 40	41 to 1453	41 to 1359	1360 to 1383	1384 to 1453
TANGO 265	1 to 31	32 to 761	32 to 683	684 to 704	705 to 761
TANGO 273	1 to 22	23 to 172	23 to 60	61 to 81	82 to 172
TANGO 286	1 to 23	24 to 455	24 to 455	N/A	N/A
TANGO 294 (variant 1)	1 to 33	34 to 423	34 to 254	255 to 279	280 to 423
<variant 2> {variant 3}	(15 to 33) <1 to 33> {15 to 33}	(34 to 423) <34 to 423> {34 to 423}	(34 to 254) <34 to 423> {34 to 423}	(255 to 279) <N/A> { N/A }	(280 to 423) <N/A> { N/A }
INTERCEPT 296	N/A	1 to 343	1 to 23 71 to 182 228 to 249	24 to 42 51 to 70 183 to 204 211 to 227 250 to 271	43 to 50 205 to 210 272 to 343
Amino Acid Residues					

Various aspects of the invention are described in further detail in the following subsections.

I. Isolated Nucleic Acid Molecules

5 One aspect of the invention pertains to isolated nucleic acid molecules that encode a polypeptide of the invention or a biologically active portion thereof, as well as nucleic acid molecules sufficient for use as hybridization probes to identify nucleic acid molecules encoding a polypeptide of the invention and fragments of such nucleic acid molecules suitable for use as PCR primers for the amplification or
10 mutation of nucleic acid molecules. As used herein, the term "nucleic acid molecule" is intended to include DNA molecules (e.g., cDNA or genomic DNA) and RNA molecules (e.g., mRNA) and analogs of the DNA or RNA generated using nucleotide analogs. The nucleic acid molecule can be single-stranded or double-stranded, but preferably is double-stranded DNA.

15 An "isolated" nucleic acid molecule is one which is separated from other nucleic acid molecules which are present in the natural source of the nucleic acid molecule. Preferably, an "isolated" nucleic acid molecule is free of sequences (preferably protein-encoding sequences) which naturally flank the nucleic acid (i.e., sequences located at the 5' and 3' ends of the nucleic acid) in the genomic DNA of the
20 organism from which the nucleic acid is derived. For example, in various embodiments, the isolated nucleic acid molecule can contain less than about 5 kB, 4 kB, 3 kB, 2 kB, 1 kB, 0.5 kB or 0.1 kB of nucleotide sequences which naturally flank the nucleic acid molecule in genomic DNA of the cell from which the nucleic acid is derived. Moreover, an "isolated" nucleic acid molecule, such as a cDNA molecule, can
25 be substantially free of other cellular material, or culture medium when produced by recombinant techniques, or substantially free of chemical precursors or other chemicals when chemically synthesized.

A nucleic acid molecule of the present invention, e.g., a nucleic acid molecule having the nucleotide sequence of all or a portion of SEQ ID NO: 1, 2, 9, 10,
30 17, 18, 25, 26, 33, 34, 45, 46, 53, 54, 67, 68, 72, 73, or a complement thereof, or which

has a nucleotide sequence comprising one of these sequences, can be isolated using standard molecular biology techniques and the sequence information provided herein. Using all or a portion of the nucleic acid sequences of SEQ ID NO: 1, 2, 9, 10, 17, 18, 25, 26, 33, 34, 45, 46, 53, 54, 67, 68, 72, 73, as a hybridization probe, nucleic acid molecules of the invention can be isolated using standard hybridization and cloning techniques (e.g., as described in Sambrook et al., eds., *Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual*, 2nd ed., Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, NY, 1989).

A nucleic acid molecule of the invention can be amplified using cDNA, mRNA or genomic DNA as a template and appropriate oligonucleotide primers according to standard PCR amplification techniques. The nucleic acid so amplified can be cloned into an appropriate vector and characterized by DNA sequence analysis. Furthermore, oligonucleotides corresponding to all or a portion of a nucleic acid molecule of the invention can be prepared by standard synthetic techniques, e.g., using an automated DNA synthesizer.

In another preferred embodiment, an isolated nucleic acid molecule of the invention comprises a nucleic acid molecule which is a complement of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1, 2, 9, 10, 17, 18, 25, 26, 33, 34, 45, 46, 53, 54, 67, 68, 72, 73, or a portion thereof. A nucleic acid molecule which is complementary to a given nucleotide sequence is one which is sufficiently complementary to the given nucleotide sequence that it can hybridize to the given nucleotide sequence thereby forming a stable duplex.

Moreover, a nucleic acid molecule of the invention can comprise only a portion of a nucleic acid sequence encoding a full length polypeptide of the invention for example, a fragment which can be used as a probe or primer or a fragment encoding a biologically active portion of a polypeptide of the invention. The nucleotide sequence determined from the cloning one gene allows for the generation of probes and primers designed for use in identifying and/or cloning homologs in other cell types, e.g., from other tissues, as well as homologs from other mammals. The probe/primer typically comprises substantially purified oligonucleotide. The oligonucleotide typically

comprises a region of nucleotide sequence that hybridizes under stringent conditions to at least about 15, preferably about 25, more preferably about 50, 75, 100, 125, 150, 175, 200, 250, 300, 350, or 400 or more consecutive nucleotides of the sense or anti-sense sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1, 2, 9, 10, 17, 18, 25, 26, 33, 34, 45, 46, 53, 54, 67, 68, 72, 73, or of a naturally occurring mutant of SEQ ID NO: 1, 2, 9, 10, 17, 18, 25, 26, 33, 34, 45, 46, 53, 54, 67, 68, 72, or 73.

Probes based on the sequence of a nucleic acid molecule of the invention can be used to detect transcripts or genomic sequences encoding the same protein molecule encoded by a selected nucleic acid molecule. The probe comprises a label group attached thereto, e.g., a radioisotope, a fluorescent compound, an enzyme, or an enzyme co-factor. Such probes can be used as part of a diagnostic test kit for identifying cells or tissues which mis-express the protein, such as by measuring levels of a nucleic acid molecule encoding the protein in a sample of cells from a subject, e.g., detecting mRNA levels or determining whether a gene encoding the protein has been mutated or deleted.

A nucleic acid fragment encoding a biologically active portion of a polypeptide of the invention can be prepared by isolating a portion of SEQ ID NO: 2, 10, 18, 26, 34, 46, 54, 68, or 73, expressing the encoded portion of the polypeptide protein (e.g., by recombinant expression *in vitro*), and assessing the activity of the encoded portion of the polypeptide.

The invention further encompasses nucleic acid molecules that differ from the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1, 2, 9, 10, 17, 18, 25, 26, 33, 34, 45, 46, 53, 54, 67, 68, 72, or 73 due to degeneracy of the genetic code and thus encode the same protein as that encoded by the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2, 10, 18, 26, 34, 46, 54, 68, or 73.

In addition to the nucleotide sequences of SEQ ID NOS: 2, 10, 18, 26, 34, 46, 54, 68, or 73, it will be appreciated by those skilled in the art that DNA sequence polymorphisms that lead to changes in the amino acid sequence can exist within a population (e.g., the human population). Such genetic polymorphisms can

exist among individuals within a population due to natural allelic variation. An allele is one of a group of genes which occur alternatively at a given genetic locus.

As used herein, the phrase "allelic variant" refers to a nucleotide sequence which occurs at a given locus or to a polypeptide encoded by the nucleotide sequence.

As used herein, the terms "gene" and "recombinant gene" refer to nucleic acid molecules comprising an open reading frame encoding a polypeptide of the invention. Such natural allelic variations can typically result in 1-5% variance in the nucleotide sequence of a given gene. Alternative alleles can be identified by sequencing the gene of interest in a number of different individuals. This can be readily carried out by using hybridization probes to identify the same genetic locus in a variety of individuals. Any and all such nucleotide variations and resulting amino acid polymorphisms or variations that are the result of natural allelic variation and that do not alter the functional activity are intended to be within the scope of the invention.

Moreover, nucleic acid molecules encoding proteins of the invention from other species (homologs), which have a nucleotide sequence which differs from that of the rat protein described herein are intended to be within the scope of the invention. Nucleic acid molecules corresponding to natural allelic variants and homologs of a cDNA of the invention can be isolated based on their identity to human nucleic acid molecules using the rat cDNAs, or a portion thereof, as a hybridization probe according to standard hybridization techniques under stringent hybridization conditions. For example, a cDNA encoding a soluble form of a membrane-bound protein of the invention isolated based on its hybridization to a nucleic acid molecule encoding all or part of the membrane-bound form. Likewise, a cDNA encoding a membrane-bound form can be isolated based on its hybridization to a nucleic acid molecule encoding all or part of the soluble form.

Accordingly, in another embodiment, an isolated nucleic acid molecule of the invention is at least 15 (25, 40, 60, 80, 100, 150, 200, 250, 300, 350, 400, 450, 550, 650, 700, 800, 900, 1000, 1200, 1400, 1600, 1800, 2000, 2200, 2400, 2600, 2800, 3000, 3500, 4000, 4500, or 4928) nucleotides in length and hybridizes under stringent

conditions to the nucleic acid molecule comprising the nucleotide sequence, preferably the coding sequence, of SEQ ID NO: 1, 2, 9, 10, 17, 18, 25, 26, 33, 34, 45, 46, 53, 54, 67, 68, 72, or 73, or a complement thereof. As used herein, the term "hybridizes under stringent conditions" is intended to describe conditions for hybridization and washing under which nucleotide sequences at least 60% (65%, 70%, preferably 75%) identical to each other typically remain hybridized to each other. Such stringent conditions are known to those skilled in the art and can be found in *Current Protocols in Molecular Biology*, John Wiley & Sons, N.Y. (1989), 6.3.1-6.3.6. A preferred, non-limiting example of stringent hybridization conditions are hybridization in 6× sodium chloride/sodium citrate (SSC) at about 45°C, followed by one or more washes in 0.2× SSC, 0.1% SDS at 50-65°C. Preferably, an isolated nucleic acid molecule of the invention that hybridizes under stringent conditions to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1, 2, 9, 10, 17, 18, 25, 26, 33, 34, 45, 46, 53, 54, 67, 68, 72, or 73, or a complement thereof, corresponds to a naturally-occurring nucleic acid molecule. As used herein, a "naturally-occurring" nucleic acid molecule refers to an RNA or DNA molecule having a nucleotide sequence that occurs in nature (e.g., encodes a natural protein).

In addition to naturally-occurring allelic variants of a nucleic acid molecule of the invention sequence that can exist in the population, the skilled artisan will further appreciate that changes can be introduced by mutation thereby leading to changes in the amino acid sequence of the encoded protein, without altering the biological activity of the protein. For example, one can make nucleotide substitutions leading to amino acid substitutions at "non-essential" amino acid residues. A "non-essential" amino acid residue is a residue that can be altered from the wild-type sequence without altering the biological activity, whereas an "essential" amino acid residue is required for biological activity. For example, amino acid residues that are not conserved or only semi-conserved among homologs of various species may be non-essential for activity and thus would be likely targets for alteration. Alternatively, amino acid residues that are conserved among the homologs of various species (e.g., murine and human) may be essential for activity and thus would not be likely targets for alteration.

Accordingly, another aspect of the invention pertains to nucleic acid molecules encoding a polypeptide of the invention that contain changes in amino acid residues that are not essential for activity. Such polypeptides differ in amino acid sequence from SEQ ID NO: 3-8, 11-16, 19-24, 27-32, 35-44, 47-52, 55-66, 69, or 74, yet retain biological activity. In one embodiment, the isolated nucleic acid molecule includes a nucleotide sequence encoding a protein that includes an amino acid sequence that is at least about 40% identical, 50%, 60%, 70%, 80%, 90%, 95%, or 98% identical to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3-8, 11-16, 19-24, 27-32, 35-44, 47-52, 55-66, 69, or 74.

An isolated nucleic acid molecule encoding a variant protein can be created by introducing one or more nucleotide substitutions, additions or deletions into the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1, 2, 9, 10, 17, 18, 25, 26, 33, 34, 45, 46, 53, 54, 67, 68, 72, or 73, such that one or more amino acid residue substitutions, additions or deletions are introduced into the encoded protein. Mutations can be introduced by standard techniques, such as site-directed mutagenesis and PCR-mediated mutagenesis. Preferably, conservative amino acid substitutions are made at one or more predicted non-essential amino acid residues. A "conservative amino acid substitution" is one in which the amino acid residue is replaced with an amino acid residue having a similar side chain. Families of amino acid residues having similar side chains have been defined in the art. These families include amino acids with basic side chains (e.g., lysine, arginine, histidine), acidic side chains (e.g., aspartic acid, glutamic acid), uncharged polar side chains (e.g., glycine, asparagine, glutamine, serine, threonine, tyrosine, cysteine), non-polar side chains (e.g., alanine, valine, leucine, isoleucine, proline, phenylalanine, methionine, tryptophan), beta-branched side chains (e.g., threonine, valine, isoleucine) and aromatic side chains (e.g., tyrosine, phenylalanine, tryptophan, histidine). Alternatively, mutations can be introduced randomly along all or part of the coding sequence, such as by saturation mutagenesis, and the resultant mutants can be screened for biological activity to identify mutants that retain activity. Following mutagenesis, the encoded protein can be expressed recombinantly and the activity of the protein can be determined.

In a preferred embodiment, a mutant polypeptide that is a variant of a polypeptide of the invention can be assayed for: (1) the ability to form protein:protein interactions with the polypeptide of the invention; (2) the ability to bind a ligand of the polypeptide of the invention (e.g. another protein identified herein); (3) the ability to bind to a modulator or substrate of the polypeptide of the invention; or (4) the ability to modulate a physiological activity of the protein, such as one of those disclosed herein.

The present invention encompasses antisense nucleic acid molecules, i.e., molecules which are complementary to a sense nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide of the invention, e.g., complementary to the coding strand of a double-stranded cDNA molecule or complementary to an mRNA sequence. Accordingly, an antisense nucleic acid can hydrogen bond to a sense nucleic acid. The antisense nucleic acid can be complementary to an entire coding strand, or to only a portion thereof, e.g., all or part of the protein coding region (or open reading frame). An antisense nucleic acid molecule can be antisense to all or part of a non-coding region of the coding strand of a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide of the invention. The non-coding regions ("5' and 3' untranslated regions") are the 5' and 3' sequences which flank the coding region and are not translated into amino acids.

An antisense oligonucleotide can be, for example, about 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, or 50 or more nucleotides in length. An antisense nucleic acid of the invention can be constructed using chemical synthesis and enzymatic ligation reactions using procedures known in the art. For example, an antisense nucleic acid (e.g., an antisense oligonucleotide) can be chemically synthesized using naturally occurring nucleotides or variously modified nucleotides designed to increase the biological stability of the molecules or to increase the physical stability of the duplex formed between the antisense and sense nucleic acids, e.g., phosphorothioate derivatives and acridine substituted nucleotides can be used. Examples of modified nucleotides which can be used to generate the antisense nucleic acid include 5-fluorouracil, 5-bromouracil, 5-chlorouracil, 5-iodouracil, hypoxanthine, xanthine, 4-acetylcytosine, 5-(carboxyhydroxymethyl) uracil, 5-carboxymethylaminomethyl-2-thiouridine, 5-carboxymethylaminomethyluracil, dihydrouracil, beta-D-galactosylqueosine, inosine,

N₆-isopentenyladenine, 1-methylguanine, 1-methylinosine, 2,2-dimethylguanine, 2-methyladenine, 2-methylguanine, 3-methylcytosine, 5-methylcytosine, N₆-adenine, 7-methylguanine, 5-methylaminomethyluracil, 5-methoxyaminomethyl-2-thiouracil, beta-D-mannosylqueosine, 5'-methoxycarboxymethyluracil, 5-methoxyuracil, 2-methylthio-N₆-isopentenyladenine, uracil-5-oxyacetic acid (v), wybutoxosine, pseudouracil, queosine, 2-thiocytosine, 5-methyl-2-thiouracil, 2-thiouracil, 4-thiouracil, 5-methyluracil, uracil-5-oxyacetic acid methylester, uracil-5-oxyacetic acid (v), 5-methyl-2-thiouracil, 3-(3-amino-3-N-2-carboxypropyl) uracil, (acp3)_w, and 2,6-diaminopurine. Alternatively, the antisense nucleic acid can be produced biologically using an expression vector into which a nucleic acid has been sub-cloned in an antisense orientation (i.e., RNA transcribed from the inserted nucleic acid will be of an antisense orientation to a target nucleic acid of interest, described further in the following subsection).

The antisense nucleic acid molecules of the invention are typically administered to a subject or generated *in situ* such that they hybridize with or bind to cellular mRNA and/or genomic DNA encoding a selected polypeptide of the invention to thereby inhibit expression, e.g., by inhibiting transcription and/or translation. The hybridization can be by conventional nucleotide complementarity to form a stable duplex, or, for example, in the case of an antisense nucleic acid molecule which binds to DNA duplexes, through specific interactions in the major groove of the double helix. An example of a route of administration of antisense nucleic acid molecules of the invention includes direct injection at a tissue site. Alternatively, antisense nucleic acid molecules can be modified to target selected cells and then administered systemically. For example, for systemic administration, antisense molecules can be modified such that they specifically bind to receptors or antigens expressed on a selected cell surface, e.g., by linking the antisense nucleic acid molecules to peptides or antibodies which bind to cell surface receptors or antigens. The antisense nucleic acid molecules can also be delivered to cells using the vectors described herein. To achieve sufficient intracellular concentrations of the antisense molecules, vector constructs in which the

antisense nucleic acid molecule is placed under the control of a strong pol II or pol III promoter are preferred.

An antisense nucleic acid molecule of the invention can be an α -anomeric nucleic acid molecule. An α -anomeric nucleic acid molecule forms specific double-stranded hybrids with complementary RNA in which, contrary to the usual α -units, the strands run parallel to each other (Gaultier et al. (1987) *Nucleic Acids Res.* 15:6625-6641). The antisense nucleic acid molecule can also comprise a 2'-o-methylribonucleotide (Inoue et al. (1987) *Nucleic Acids Res.* 15:6131-6148) or a chimeric RNA-DNA analogue (Inoue et al. (1987) *FEBS Lett.* 215:327-330).

The invention also encompasses ribozymes. Ribozymes are catalytic RNA molecules with ribonuclease activity which are capable of cleaving a single-stranded nucleic acid, such as an mRNA, to which they have a complementary region. Thus, ribozymes (e.g., hammerhead ribozymes as described in Haselhoff and Gerlach (1988) *Nature* 334:585-591) can be used to catalytically cleave mRNA transcripts to thereby inhibit translation of the protein encoded by the mRNA. A ribozyme having specificity for a nucleic acid molecule encoding a polypeptide of the invention can be designed based upon the nucleotide sequence of a cDNA disclosed herein. For example, a derivative of a *Tetrahymena* L-19 IVS RNA can be constructed in which the nucleotide sequence of the active site is complementary to the nucleotide sequence to be cleaved in a Cech et al. U.S. Patent No. 4,987,071; and Cech et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,116,742. Alternatively, an mRNA encoding a polypeptide of the invention can be used to select a catalytic RNA having a specific ribonuclease activity from a pool of RNA molecules. See, e.g., Bartel and Szostak (1993) *Science* 261:1411-1418.

The invention also encompasses nucleic acid molecules which form triple helical structures. For example, expression of a polypeptide of the invention can be inhibited by targeting nucleotide sequences complementary to the regulatory region of the gene encoding the polypeptide (e.g., the promoter and/or enhancer) to form triple helical structures that prevent transcription of the gene in target cells. See generally Helene (1991) *Anticancer Drug Des.* 6(6):569-84; Helene (1992) *Ann. N.Y. Acad. Sci.* 660:27-36; and Maher (1992) *Bioassays* 14(12):807-15.

In various embodiments, the nucleic acid molecules of the invention can be modified at the base moiety, sugar moiety or phosphate backbone to improve, e.g., the stability, hybridization, or solubility of the molecule. For example, the deoxyribose phosphate backbone of the nucleic acids can be modified to generate peptide nucleic acids (see Hyrup et al. (1996) *Bioorganic & Medicinal Chemistry* 4(1): 5-23). As used herein, the terms "peptide nucleic acids" or "PNAs" refer to nucleic acid mimics, e.g., DNA mimics, in which the deoxyribose phosphate backbone is replaced by a pseudopeptide backbone and only the four natural nucleobases are retained. The neutral backbone of PNAs has been shown to allow for specific hybridization to DNA and RNA under conditions of low ionic strength. The synthesis of PNA oligomers can be performed using standard solid phase peptide synthesis protocols as described in Hyrup et al. (1996), *supra*; Perry-O'Keefe et al. (1996) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 93: 14670-675.

PNAs can be used in therapeutic and diagnostic applications. For example, PNAs can be used as antisense or antigene agents for sequence-specific modulation of gene expression by, e.g., inducing transcription or translation arrest or inhibiting replication. PNAs can also be used, e.g., in the analysis of single base pair mutations in a gene by, e.g., PNA directed PCR clamping; as artificial restriction enzymes when used in combination with other enzymes, e.g., S1 nucleases (Hyrup (1996), *supra*; or as probes or primers for DNA sequence and hybridization (Hyrup (1996), *supra*; Perry-O'Keefe et al. (1996) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 93: 14670-675).

In another embodiment, PNAs can be modified, e.g., to enhance their stability or cellular uptake, by attaching lipophilic or other helper groups to PNA, by the formation of PNA-DNA chimeras, or by the use of liposomes or other techniques of drug delivery known in the art. For example, PNA-DNA chimeras can be generated which can combine the advantageous properties of PNA and DNA. Such chimeras allow DNA recognition enzymes, e.g., RNASE H and DNA polymerases, to interact with the DNA portion while the PNA portion would provide high binding affinity and specificity. PNA-DNA chimeras can be linked using linkers of appropriate lengths selected in terms of base stacking, number of bonds between the nucleobases, and

orientation (Hyrup (1996), *supra*). The synthesis of PNA-DNA chimeras can be performed as described in Hyrup (1996), *supra*, and Finn et al. (1996) *Nucleic Acids Res.* 24(17):3357-63. For example, a DNA chain can be synthesized on a solid support using standard phosphoramidite coupling chemistry and modified nucleoside analogs. Compounds such as 5'-(4-methoxytrityl)amino-5'-deoxy-thymidine phosphoramidite can be used as a link between the PNA and the 5' end of DNA (Mag et al. (1989) *Nucleic Acids Res.* 17:5973-88). PNA monomers are then coupled in a step-wise manner to produce a chimeric molecule with a 5' PNA segment and a 3' DNA segment (Finn et al. (1996) *Nucleic Acids Res.* 24(17):3357-63). Alternatively, chimeric molecules can be synthesized with a 5' DNA segment and a 3' PNA segment (Peterser et al. (1975) *Bioorganic Med. Chem. Lett.* 5:1119-11124).

In other embodiments, the oligonucleotide can include other appended groups such as peptides (e.g., for targeting host cell receptors *in vivo*), or agents facilitating transport across the cell membrane (*see, e.g.*, Letsinger et al. (1989) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 86:6553-6556; Lemaitre et al. (1987) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 84:648-652; PCT Publication No. WO 88/09810) or the blood-brain barrier (*see, e.g.*, PCT Publication No. WO 89/10134). In addition, oligonucleotides can be modified with hybridization-triggered cleavage agents (*see, e.g.*, Krol et al. (1988) *Bio/Techniques* 6:958-976) or intercalating agents (*see, e.g.*, Zon (1988) *Pharm. Res.* 5:539-549). To this end, the oligonucleotide can be conjugated to another molecule, e.g., a peptide, hybridization triggered cross-linking agent, transport agent, hybridization-triggered cleavage agent, etc.

II. Isolated Proteins and Antibodies

One aspect of the invention pertains to isolated proteins, and biologically active portions thereof, as well as polypeptide fragments suitable for use as immunogens to raise antibodies directed against a polypeptide of the invention. In one embodiment, the native polypeptide can be isolated from cells or tissue sources by an appropriate purification scheme using standard protein purification techniques. In another embodiment, polypeptides of the invention are produced by recombinant DNA

techniques. Alternative to recombinant expression, a polypeptide of the invention can be synthesized chemically using standard peptide synthesis techniques.

An "isolated" or "purified" protein or biologically active portion thereof is substantially free of cellular material or other contaminating proteins from the cell or tissue source from which the protein is derived, or substantially free of chemical precursors or other chemicals when chemically synthesized. The language "substantially free of cellular material" includes preparations of protein in which the protein is separated from cellular components of the cells from which it is isolated or recombinantly produced. Thus, protein that is substantially free of cellular material includes preparations of protein having less than about 30%, 20%, 10%, or 5% (by dry weight) of heterologous protein (also referred to herein as a "contaminating protein"). When the protein or biologically active portion thereof is recombinantly produced, it is also preferably substantially free of culture medium, i.e., culture medium represents less than about 20%, 10%, or 5% of the volume of the protein preparation. When the protein is produced by chemical synthesis, it is preferably substantially free of chemical precursors or other chemicals, i.e., it is separated from chemical precursors or other chemicals which are involved in the synthesis of the protein. Accordingly such preparations of the protein have less than about 30%, 20%, 10%, 5% (by dry weight) of chemical precursors or compounds other than the polypeptide of interest.

Biologically active portions of a polypeptide of the invention include polypeptides comprising amino acid sequences sufficiently identical to or derived from the amino acid sequence of the protein (e.g., the amino acid sequence shown in any of SEQ ID NOs: 3-8, 11-16, 19-24, 27-32, 35-44, 47-52, 55-66, 69, or 74), which include fewer amino acids than the full length protein, and exhibit at least one activity of the corresponding full-length protein. Typically, biologically active portions comprise a domain or motif with at least one activity of the corresponding protein. A biologically active portion of a protein of the invention can be a polypeptide which is, for example, 10, 25, 50, 100 or more amino acids in length. Moreover, other biologically active portions, in which other regions of the protein are deleted, can be prepared by

recombinant techniques and evaluated for one or more of the functional activities of the native form of a polypeptide of the invention.

Preferred polypeptides have the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3-8, 11-16, 19-24, 27-32, 35-44, 47-52, 55-66, 69, or 74. Other useful proteins are substantially identical (e.g., at least about 40%, preferably 50%, 60%, 70%, 80%, 90%, 95%, or 99%) to any of SEQ ID NO: 3-8, 11-16, 19-24, 27-32, 35-44, 47-52, 55-66, 69, or 74 and retain the functional activity of the protein of the corresponding naturally-occurring protein yet differ in amino acid sequence due to natural allelic variation or mutagenesis.

To determine the percent identity of two amino acid sequences or of two nucleic acids, the sequences are aligned for optimal comparison purposes (e.g., gaps can be introduced in the sequence of a first amino acid or nucleic acid sequence for optimal alignment with a second amino or nucleic acid sequence). The amino acid residues or nucleotides at corresponding amino acid positions or nucleotide positions are then compared. When a position in the first sequence is occupied by the same amino acid residue or nucleotide as the corresponding position in the second sequence, then the molecules are identical at that position. The percent identity between the two sequences is a function of the number of identical positions shared by the sequences (i.e., % identity = # of identical positions/total # of positions (e.g., overlapping positions) \times 100). In one embodiment the two sequences are the same length.

The determination of percent identity between two sequences can be accomplished using a mathematical algorithm. A preferred, non-limiting example of a mathematical algorithm utilized for the comparison of two sequences is the algorithm of Karlin and Altschul (1990) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 87:2264-2268, modified as in Karlin and Altschul (1993) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 90:5873-5877. Such an algorithm is incorporated into the NBLAST and XBLAST programs of Altschul, et al. (1990) *J. Mol. Biol.* 215:403-410. BLAST nucleotide searches can be performed with the NBLAST program, score = 100, wordlength = 12 to obtain nucleotide sequences homologous to a nucleic acid molecules of the invention. BLAST protein searches can be performed with the XBLAST program, score = 50, wordlength = 3 to obtain amino

acid sequences homologous to a protein molecules of the invention. To obtain gapped alignments for comparison purposes, Gapped BLAST can be utilized as described in Altschul et al. (1997) *Nucleic Acids Res.* 25:3389-3402. Alternatively, PSI-Blast can be used to perform an iterated search which detects distant relationships between molecules. *Id.* When utilizing BLAST, Gapped BLAST, and PSI-Blast programs, the default parameters of the respective programs (e.g., XBLAST and NBLAST) can be used. *See* <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov>. Another preferred, non-limiting example of a mathematical algorithm utilized for the comparison of sequences is the algorithm of Myers and Miller, (1988) *CABIOS* 4:11-17. Such an algorithm is incorporated into the ALIGN program (version 2.0) which is part of the GCG sequence alignment software package. When utilizing the ALIGN program for comparing amino acid sequences, a PAM120 weight residue table, a gap length penalty of 12, and a gap penalty of 4 can be used. Yet another useful algorithm for identifying regions of local sequence similarity and alignment is the FASTA algorithm as described in Pearson and Lipman (1988) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 85:2444-2448. When using the FASTA algorithm for comparing nucleotide or amino acid sequences, a PAM120 weight residue table can, for example, be used with a *k*-tuple value of 2.

The percent identity between two sequences can be determined using techniques similar to those described above, with or without allowing gaps. In calculating percent identity, only exact matches are counted.

The invention also provides chimeric or fusion proteins. As used herein, a "chimeric protein" or "fusion protein" comprises all or part (preferably biologically active) of a polypeptide of the invention operably linked to a heterologous polypeptide (i.e., a polypeptide other than the same polypeptide of the invention). Within the fusion protein, the term "operably linked" is intended to indicate that the polypeptide of the invention and the heterologous polypeptide are fused in-frame to each other. The heterologous polypeptide can be fused to the amino-terminus or the carboxyl-terminus of the polypeptide of the invention.

One useful fusion protein is a GST fusion protein in which the polypeptide of the invention is fused to the carboxyl terminus of GST sequences. Such

fusion proteins can facilitate the purification of a recombinant polypeptide of the invention.

In another embodiment, the fusion protein contains a heterologous signal sequence at its amino terminus. For example, the native signal sequence of a polypeptide of the invention can be removed and replaced with a signal sequence from another protein. For example, the gp67 secretory sequence of the baculovirus envelope protein can be used as a heterologous signal sequence (*Current Protocols in Molecular Biology*, Ausubel et al., eds., John Wiley & Sons, 1992). Other examples of eukaryotic heterologous signal sequences include the secretory sequences of melittin and human placental alkaline phosphatase (Stratagene; La Jolla, California). In yet another example, useful prokaryotic heterologous signal sequences include the phoA secretory signal (Sambrook et al., *supra*) and the protein A secretory signal (Pharmacia Biotech; Piscataway, New Jersey).

In yet another embodiment, the fusion protein is an immunoglobulin fusion protein in which all or part of a polypeptide of the invention is fused to sequences derived from a member of the immunoglobulin protein family. The immunoglobulin fusion proteins of the invention can be incorporated into pharmaceutical compositions and administered to a subject to inhibit an interaction between a ligand (soluble or membrane-bound) and a protein on the surface of a cell (receptor), to thereby suppress signal transduction *in vivo*. The immunoglobulin fusion protein can be used to affect the bioavailability of a cognate ligand of a polypeptide of the invention. Inhibition of ligand/receptor interaction can be useful therapeutically, both for treating proliferative and differentiative disorders and for modulating (e.g. promoting or inhibiting) cell survival. Moreover, the immunoglobulin fusion proteins of the invention can be used as immunogens to produce antibodies directed against a polypeptide of the invention in a subject, to purify ligands and in screening assays to identify molecules which inhibit the interaction of receptors with ligands.

Chimeric and fusion proteins of the invention can be produced by standard recombinant DNA techniques. In another embodiment, the fusion gene can be synthesized by conventional techniques including automated DNA synthesizers.

Alternatively, PCR amplification of gene fragments can be carried out using anchor primers which give rise to complementary overhangs between two consecutive gene fragments which can subsequently be annealed and re-amplified to generate a chimeric gene sequence (*see, e.g.,* Ausubel et al., *supra*). Moreover, many expression vectors are commercially available that already encode a fusion moiety (e.g., a GST polypeptide). A nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide of the invention can be cloned into such an expression vector such that the fusion moiety is linked in-frame to the polypeptide of the invention.

A signal sequence of a polypeptide of the invention (e.g. the signal sequence in one of SEQ ID NO: 3, 4, 11, 12, 19, 20, 27, 28, 35, 36, 47, 48, 69, and 74) can be used to facilitate secretion and isolation of the secreted protein or other proteins of interest. Signal sequences are typically characterized by a core of hydrophobic amino acids which are generally cleaved from the mature protein during secretion in one or more cleavage events. Such signal peptides contain processing sites that allow cleavage of the signal sequence from the mature proteins as they pass through the secretory pathway. Thus, the invention pertains to the described polypeptides having a signal sequence, as well as to the signal sequence itself and to the polypeptide in the absence of the signal sequence (i.e., the cleavage products). In one embodiment, a nucleic acid sequence encoding a signal sequence of the invention can be operably linked in an expression vector to a protein of interest, such as a protein which is ordinarily not secreted or is otherwise difficult to isolate. The signal sequence directs secretion of the protein, such as from a eukaryotic host into which the expression vector is transformed, and the signal sequence is subsequently or concurrently cleaved. The protein can then be readily purified from the extracellular medium by art recognized methods. Alternatively, the signal sequence can be linked to the protein of interest using a sequence which facilitates purification, such as with a GST domain.

In another embodiment, the signal sequences of the present invention can be used to identify regulatory sequences, e.g., promoters, enhancers, repressors. Since signal sequences are the most amino-terminal sequences of a peptide, the nucleic acids which flank the signal sequence on its amino-terminal side are likely regulatory

sequences which affect transcription. Thus, a nucleotide sequence which encodes all or a portion of a signal sequence can be used as a probe to identify and isolate signal sequences and their flanking regions, and these flanking regions can be studied to identify regulatory elements therein.

5 The present invention also pertains to variants of the polypeptides of the invention. Such variants have an altered amino acid sequence which can function as either agonists (mimetics) or as antagonists. Variants can be generated by mutagenesis, e.g., discrete point mutation or truncation. An agonist can retain substantially the same, or a subset, of the biological activities of the naturally occurring form of the protein.

10 An antagonist of a protein can inhibit one or more of the activities of the naturally occurring form of the protein by, for example, competitively binding to a downstream or upstream member of a cellular signaling cascade which includes the protein of interest. Thus, specific biological effects can be elicited by treatment with a variant of limited function. Treatment of a subject with a variant having a subset of the biological activities of the naturally occurring form of the protein can have fewer side effects in a subject relative to treatment with the naturally occurring form of the protein.

15 Variants of a protein of the invention which function as either agonists (mimetics) or as antagonists can be identified by screening combinatorial libraries of mutants, e.g., truncation mutants, of the protein of the invention for agonist or antagonist activity. In one embodiment, a variegated library of variants is generated by combinatorial mutagenesis at the nucleic acid level and is encoded by a variegated gene library. A variegated library of variants can be produced by, for example, enzymatically ligating a mixture of synthetic oligonucleotides into gene sequences such that a degenerate set of potential protein sequences is expressible as individual polypeptides, or alternatively, as a set of larger fusion proteins (e.g., for phage display).
20 There are a variety of methods which can be used to produce libraries of potential variants of the polypeptides of the invention from a degenerate oligonucleotide sequence. Methods for synthesizing degenerate oligonucleotides are known in the art (see, e.g., Narang (1983) *Tetrahedron* 39:3; Itakura et al. (1984) *Annu. Rev. Biochem.*

53:323; Itakura et al. (1984) *Science* 198:1056; Ike et al. (1983) *Nucleic Acid Res.* 11:477).

5 In addition, libraries of fragments of the coding sequence of a polypeptide of the invention can be used to generate a variegated population of polypeptides for screening and subsequent selection of variants. For example, a library of coding sequence fragments can be generated by treating a double stranded PCR
10 fragment of the coding sequence of interest with a nuclease under conditions wherein nicking occurs only about once per molecule, denaturing the double stranded DNA, renaturing the DNA to form double stranded DNA which can include sense/antisense pairs from different nicked products, removing single stranded portions from reformed
15 duplexes by treatment with S1 nuclease, and ligating the resulting fragment library into an expression vector. By this method, an expression library can be derived which encodes amino terminal and internal fragments of various sizes of the protein of
20 interest.

25 Several techniques are known in the art for screening gene products of combinatorial libraries made by point mutations or truncation, and for screening cDNA libraries for gene products having a selected property. The most widely used techniques, which are amenable to high through-put analysis, for screening large gene
30 libraries typically include cloning the gene library into replicable expression vectors, transforming appropriate cells with the resulting library of vectors, and expressing the combinatorial genes under conditions in which detection of a desired activity facilitates isolation of the vector encoding the gene whose product was detected. Recursive
ensemble mutagenesis (REM), a technique which enhances the frequency of functional
mutants in the libraries, can be used in combination with the screening assays to
25 identify variants of a protein of the invention (Arkin and Yourvan (1992) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 89:7811-7815; Delgrave et al. (1993) *Protein Engineering* 6(3):327-331).

30 An isolated polypeptide of the invention, or a fragment thereof, can be used as an immunogen to generate antibodies using standard techniques for polyclonal and monoclonal antibody preparation. The full-length polypeptide or protein can be

used or, alternatively, the invention provides antigenic peptide fragments for use as immunogens. The antigenic peptide of a protein of the invention comprises at least 8 (preferably 10, 15, 20, or 30 or more) amino acid residues of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3-8, 11-16, 19-24, 27-32, 35-44, 47-52, 55-66, 69, or 74, and encompasses an epitope of the protein such that an antibody raised against the peptide forms a specific immune complex with the protein.

Preferred epitopes encompassed by the antigenic peptide are regions that are located on the surface of the protein, e.g., hydrophilic regions. Figures 1G, 1H, 2F, 3I, 4F, 4G, 5C, 6D, and 7C are hydrophobicity plots of the proteins of the invention. These plots or similar analyses can be used to identify hydrophilic regions.

An immunogen typically is used to prepare antibodies by immunizing a suitable (i.e. immunocompetent) subject such as a rabbit, goat, mouse, or other mammal or vertebrate. An appropriate immunogenic preparation can contain, for example, recombinantly-expressed or chemically-synthesized polypeptide. The preparation can further include an adjuvant, such as Freund's complete or incomplete adjuvant, or a similar immunostimulatory agent.

Accordingly, another aspect of the invention pertains to antibodies directed against a polypeptide of the invention. The terms "antibody" and "antibody substance" as used interchangeably herein refer to immunoglobulin molecules and immunologically active portions of immunoglobulin molecules, i.e., molecules that contain an antigen binding site which specifically binds an antigen, such as a polypeptide of the invention. A molecule which specifically binds to a given polypeptide of the invention is a molecule which binds the polypeptide, but does not substantially bind other molecules in a sample, e.g., a biological sample, which naturally contains the polypeptide. Examples of immunologically active portions of immunoglobulin molecules include F(ab) and F(ab')₂ fragments which can be generated by treating the antibody with an enzyme such as pepsin. The invention provides polyclonal and monoclonal antibodies. The term "monoclonal antibody" or "monoclonal antibody composition", as used herein, refers to a population of antibody

molecules that contain only one species of an antigen binding site capable of immunoreacting with a particular epitope.

Polyclonal antibodies can be prepared as described above by immunizing a suitable subject with a polypeptide of the invention as an immunogen.

5 The antibody titer in the immunized subject can be monitored over time by standard techniques, such as with an enzyme linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) using immobilized polypeptide. If desired, the antibody molecules can be harvested or isolated from the subject (e.g., from the blood or serum of the subject) and further purified by well-known techniques, such as protein A chromatography to obtain the
10 IgG fraction. At an appropriate time after immunization, e.g., when the specific antibody titers are highest, antibody-producing cells can be obtained from the subject and used to prepare monoclonal antibodies by standard techniques, such as the hybridoma technique originally described by Kohler and Milstein (1975) *Nature* 256:495-497, the human B cell hybridoma technique (Kozbor et al. (1983) *Immunol.*
15 *Today* 4:72), the EBV-hybridoma technique (Cole et al. (1985), *Monoclonal Antibodies and Cancer Therapy*, Alan R. Liss, Inc., pp. 77-96) or trioma techniques. The technology for producing hybridomas is well known (*see generally Current Protocols in Immunology* (1994) Coligan et al. (eds.) John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York, NY). Hybridoma cells producing a monoclonal antibody of the invention are detected by
20 screening the hybridoma culture supernatants for antibodies that bind the polypeptide of interest, e.g., using a standard ELISA assay.

Alternative to preparing monoclonal antibody-secreting hybridomas, a monoclonal antibody directed against a polypeptide of the invention can be identified and isolated by screening a recombinant combinatorial immunoglobulin library (e.g., an
25 antibody phage display library) with the polypeptide of interest. Kits for generating and screening phage display libraries are commercially available (e.g., the Pharmacia *Recombinant Phage Antibody System*, Catalog No. 27-9400-01; and the Stratagene *SurfZAP Phage Display Kit*, Catalog No. 240612). Additionally, examples of methods and reagents particularly amenable for use in generating and screening antibody display
30 library can be found in, for example, U.S. Patent No. 5,223,409; PCT Publication No.

WO 92/18619; PCT Publication No. WO 91/17271; PCT Publication No. WO 92/20791; PCT Publication No. WO 92/15679; PCT Publication No. WO 93/01288; PCT Publication No. WO 92/01047; PCT Publication No. WO 92/09690; PCT Publication No. WO 90/02809; Fuchs et al. (1991) *Bio/Technology* 9:1370-1372; Hay et al. (1992) *Hum. Antibod. Hybridomas* 3:81-85; Huse et al. (1989) *Science* 246:1275-1281; Griffiths et al. (1993) *EMBO J.* 12:725-734.

Additionally, recombinant antibodies, such as chimeric and humanized monoclonal antibodies, comprising both human and non-human portions, which can be made using standard recombinant DNA techniques, are within the scope of the invention. Such chimeric and humanized monoclonal antibodies can be produced by recombinant DNA techniques known in the art, for example using methods described in PCT Publication No. WO 87/02671; European Patent Application 184,187; European Patent Application 171,496; European Patent Application 173,494; PCT Publication No. WO 86/01533; U.S. Patent No. 4,816,567; European Patent Application 125,023; Better et al. (1988) *Science* 240:1041-1043; Liu et al. (1987) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 84:3439-3443; Liu et al. (1987) *J. Immunol.* 139:3521-3526; Sun et al. (1987) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 84:214-218; Nishimura et al. (1987) *Canc. Res.* 47:999-1005; Wood et al. (1985) *Nature* 314:446-449; and Shaw et al. (1988) *J. Natl. Cancer Inst.* 80:1553-1559; Morrison (1985) *Science* 229:1202-1207; Oi et al. (1986) *Bio/Techniques* 4:214; U.S. Patent 5,225,539; Jones et al. (1986) *Nature* 321:552-525; Verhoeyan et al. (1988) *Science* 239:1534; and Beidler et al. (1988) *J. Immunol.* 141:4053-4060.

Completely human antibodies are particularly desirable for therapeutic treatment of human patients. Such antibodies can be produced using transgenic mice which are incapable of expressing endogenous immunoglobulin heavy and light chains genes, but which can express human heavy and light chain genes. The transgenic mice are immunized in the normal fashion with a selected antigen, e.g., all or a portion of a polypeptide of the invention. Monoclonal antibodies directed against the antigen can be obtained using conventional hybridoma technology. The human immunoglobulin transgenes harbored by the transgenic mice rearrange during B cell differentiation, and

subsequently undergo class switching and somatic mutation. Thus, using such a technique, it is possible to produce therapeutically useful IgG, IgA and IgE antibodies. For an overview of this technology for producing human antibodies, see Lonberg and Huszar (1995, *Int. Rev. Immunol.* 13:65-93). For a detailed discussion of this technology for producing human antibodies and human monoclonal antibodies and protocols for producing such antibodies, see, e.g., U.S. Patent 5,625,126; U.S. Patent 5,633,425; U.S. Patent 5,569,825; U.S. Patent 5,661,016; and U.S. Patent 5,545,806. In addition, companies such as Abgenix, Inc. (Freemont, CA), can be engaged to provide human antibodies directed against a selected antigen using technology similar to that described above.

Completely human antibodies which recognize a selected epitope can be generated using a technique referred to as "guided selection." In this approach a selected non-human monoclonal antibody, e.g., a murine antibody, is used to guide the selection of a completely human antibody recognizing the same epitope (Jespers et al. (1994) *Bio/technology* 12:899-903).

An antibody directed against a polypeptide of the invention (e.g., monoclonal antibody) can be used to isolate the polypeptide by standard techniques, such as affinity chromatography or immunoprecipitation. Moreover, such an antibody can be used to detect the protein (e.g., in a cellular lysate or cell supernatant) in order to evaluate the abundance and pattern of expression of the polypeptide. The antibodies can also be used diagnostically to monitor protein levels in tissue as part of a clinical testing procedure, e.g., to, for example, determine the efficacy of a given treatment regimen. Detection can be facilitated by coupling the antibody to a detectable substance. Examples of detectable substances include various enzymes, prosthetic groups, fluorescent materials, luminescent materials, bioluminescent materials, and radioactive materials. Examples of suitable enzymes include horseradish peroxidase, alkaline phosphatase, β -galactosidase, or acetylcholinesterase; examples of suitable prosthetic group complexes include streptavidin/biotin and avidin/biotin; examples of suitable fluorescent materials include umbelliferone, fluorescein, fluorescein isothiocyanate, rhodamine, dichlorotriazinylamine fluorescein, dansyl chloride or

phycoerythrin; an example of a luminescent material includes luminol; examples of bioluminescent materials include luciferase, luciferin, and aequorin, and examples of suitable radioactive material include ^{125}I , ^{131}I , ^{35}S or ^3H .

III. Recombinant Expression Vectors and Host Cells

Another aspect of the invention pertains to vectors, preferably expression vectors, containing a nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide of the invention (or a portion thereof). As used herein, the term "vector" refers to a nucleic acid molecule capable of transporting another nucleic acid to which it has been linked. One type of vector is a "plasmid", which refers to a circular double stranded DNA loop into which additional DNA segments can be ligated. Another type of vector is a viral vector, wherein additional DNA segments can be ligated into the viral genome. Certain vectors are capable of autonomous replication in a host cell into which they are introduced (e.g., bacterial vectors having a bacterial origin of replication and episomal mammalian vectors). Other vectors (e.g., non-episomal mammalian vectors) are integrated into the genome of a host cell upon introduction into the host cell, and thereby are replicated along with the host genome. Moreover, certain vectors, expression vectors, are capable of directing the expression of genes to which they are operably linked. In general, expression vectors of utility in recombinant DNA techniques are often in the form of plasmids (vectors). However, the invention is intended to include such other forms of expression vectors, such as viral vectors (e.g., replication defective retroviruses, adenoviruses and adeno-associated viruses), which serve equivalent functions.

The recombinant expression vectors of the invention comprise a nucleic acid of the invention in a form suitable for expression of the nucleic acid in a host cell. This means that the recombinant expression vectors include one or more regulatory sequences, selected on the basis of the host cells to be used for expression, which is operably linked to the nucleic acid sequence to be expressed. Within a recombinant expression vector, "operably linked" is intended to mean that the nucleotide sequence of interest is linked to the regulatory sequence(s) in a manner which allows for

expression of the nucleotide sequence (e.g., in an *in vitro* transcription/translation system or in a host cell when the vector is introduced into the host cell). The term "regulatory sequence" is intended to include promoters, enhancers and other expression control elements (e.g., polyadenylation signals). Such regulatory sequences are described, for example, in Goeddel, *Gene Expression Technology: Methods in Enzymology* 185, Academic Press, San Diego, CA (1990). Regulatory sequences include those which direct constitutive expression of a nucleotide sequence in many types of host cell and those which direct expression of the nucleotide sequence only in certain host cells (e.g., tissue-specific regulatory sequences). It will be appreciated by those skilled in the art that the design of the expression vector can depend on such factors as the choice of the host cell to be transformed, the level of expression of protein desired, and the like. The expression vectors of the invention can be introduced into host cells to thereby produce proteins or peptides, including fusion proteins or peptides, encoded by nucleic acids as described herein.

The recombinant expression vectors of the invention can be designed for expression of a polypeptide of the invention in prokaryotic (e.g., *E. coli*) or eukaryotic cells (e.g., insect cells (using baculovirus expression vectors), yeast cells or mammalian cells). Suitable host cells are discussed further in Goeddel, *supra*. Alternatively, the recombinant expression vector can be transcribed and translated *in vitro*, for example using T7 promoter regulatory sequences and T7 polymerase.

Expression of proteins in prokaryotes is most often carried out in *E. coli* with vectors containing constitutive or inducible promoters directing the expression of either fusion or non-fusion proteins. Fusion vectors add a number of amino acids to a protein encoded therein, usually to the amino terminus of the recombinant protein.

Such fusion vectors typically serve three purposes: 1) to increase expression of recombinant protein; 2) to increase the solubility of the recombinant protein; and 3) to aid in the purification of the recombinant protein by acting as a ligand in affinity purification. Often, in fusion expression vectors, a proteolytic cleavage site is introduced at the junction of the fusion moiety and the recombinant protein to enable separation of the recombinant protein from the fusion moiety subsequent to purification

of the fusion protein. Such enzymes, and their cognate recognition sequences, include Factor Xa, thrombin and enterokinase. Typical fusion expression vectors include pGEX (Pharmacia Biotech Inc; Smith and Johnson (1988) *Gene* 67:31-40), pMAL (New England Biolabs, Beverly, MA) and pRIT5 (Pharmacia, Piscataway, NJ) which fuse glutathione S-transferase (GST), maltose E binding protein, or protein A, respectively, to the target recombinant protein.

Examples of suitable inducible non-fusion *E. coli* expression vectors include pTrc (Amann et al., (1988) *Gene* 69:301-315) and pET 11d (Studier et al., *Gene Expression Technology: Methods in Enzymology* 185, Academic Press, San Diego, California (1990) 60-89). Target gene expression from the pTrc vector relies on host RNA polymerase transcription from a hybrid trp-lac fusion promoter. Target gene expression from the pET 11d vector relies on transcription from a T7 gn10-lac fusion promoter mediated by a co-expressed viral RNA polymerase (T7 gn1). This viral polymerase is supplied by host strains BL21(DE3) or HMS174(DE3) from a resident λ prophage harboring a T7 gn1 gene under the transcriptional control of the lacUV 5 promoter.

One strategy to maximize recombinant protein expression in *E. coli* is to express the protein in a host bacteria with an impaired capacity to proteolytically cleave the recombinant protein (Gottesman, *Gene Expression Technology: Methods in Enzymology* 185, Academic Press, San Diego, California (1990) 119-128). Another strategy is to alter the nucleic acid sequence of the nucleic acid to be inserted into an expression vector so that the individual codons for each amino acid are those preferentially utilized in *E. coli* (Wada et al. (1992) *Nucleic Acids Res.* 20:2111-2118). Such alteration of nucleic acid sequences of the invention can be carried out by standard DNA synthesis techniques.

In another embodiment, the expression vector is a yeast expression vector. Examples of vectors for expression in yeast *S. cerevisiae* include pYepSec1 (Baldari et al. (1987) *EMBO J.* 6:229-234), pMFa (Kurjan and Herskowitz, (1982) *Cell* 30:933-943), pJRY88 (Schultz et al. (1987) *Gene* 54:113-123), pYES2 (Invitrogen Corporation, San Diego, CA), and pPicZ (Invitrogen Corp, San Diego, CA).

Alternatively, the expression vector is a baculovirus expression vector. Baculovirus vectors available for expression of proteins in cultured insect cells (e.g., Sf 9 cells) include the pAc series (Smith et al. (1983) *Mol. Cell Biol.* 3:2156-2165) and the pVL series (Lucklow and Summers (1989) *Virology* 170:31-39).

5 In yet another embodiment, a nucleic acid of the invention is expressed in mammalian cells using a mammalian expression vector. Examples of mammalian expression vectors include pCDM8 (Seed (1987) *Nature* 329:840) and pMT2PC (Kaufman et al. (1987) *EMBO J.* 6:187-195). When used in mammalian cells, the expression vector's control functions are often provided by viral regulatory elements. 10 For example, commonly used promoters are derived from polyoma, Adenovirus 2, cytomegalovirus and Simian Virus 40. For other suitable expression systems for both prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells see chapters 16 and 17 of Sambrook et al., *supra*.

In another embodiment, the recombinant mammalian expression vector is capable of directing expression of the nucleic acid preferentially in a particular cell 15 type (e.g., tissue-specific regulatory elements are used to express the nucleic acid). Tissue-specific regulatory elements are known in the art. Non-limiting examples of suitable tissue-specific promoters include the albumin promoter (liver-specific; Pinkert et al. (1987) *Genes Dev.* 1:268-277), lymphoid-specific promoters (Calame and Eaton (1988) *Adv. Immunol.* 43:235-275), in particular promoters of T cell receptors (Winoto and Baltimore (1989) *EMBO J.* 8:729-733) and immunoglobulins (Banerji et al. (1983) *Cell* 33:729-740; Queen and Baltimore (1983) *Cell* 33:741-748), neuron-specific 20 promoters (e.g., the neurofilament promoter; Byrne and Ruddle (1989) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 86:5473-5477), pancreas-specific promoters (Edlund et al. (1985) *Science* 230:912-916), and mammary gland-specific promoters (e.g., milk whey promoter; U.S. Patent No. 4,873,316 and European Application Publication No. 264,166). Developmentally-regulated promoters are also encompassed, for example the murine hox promoters (Kessel and Gruss (1990) *Science* 249:374-379) and the α -fetoprotein promoter (Campes and Tilghman (1989) *Genes Dev.* 3:537-546).

25 The invention further provides a recombinant expression vector comprising a DNA molecule of the invention cloned into the expression vector in an 30

antisense orientation. That is, the DNA molecule is operably linked to a regulatory sequence in a manner which allows for expression (by transcription of the DNA molecule) of an RNA molecule which is antisense to the mRNA encoding a polypeptide of the invention. Regulatory sequences operably linked to a nucleic acid cloned in the antisense orientation can be chosen which direct the continuous expression of the antisense RNA molecule in a variety of cell types, for instance viral promoters and/or enhancers, or regulatory sequences can be chosen which direct constitutive, tissue specific or cell type specific expression of antisense RNA. The antisense expression vector can be in the form of a recombinant plasmid, phagemid, or attenuated virus in which antisense nucleic acids are produced under the control of a high efficiency regulatory region, the activity of which can be determined by the cell type into which the vector is introduced. For a discussion of the regulation of gene expression using antisense genes see Weintraub et al. (*Reviews - Trends in Genetics*, Vol. 1(1) 1986).

Another aspect of the invention pertains to host cells into which a recombinant expression vector of the invention has been introduced. The terms "host cell" and "recombinant host cell" are used interchangeably herein. It is understood that such terms refer not only to the particular subject cell but to the progeny or potential progeny of such a cell. Because certain modifications may occur in succeeding generations due to either mutation or environmental influences, such progeny may not, in fact, be identical to the parent cell, but are still included within the scope of the term as used herein.

A host cell can be any prokaryotic (e.g., *E. coli*) or eukaryotic cell (e.g., insect cells, yeast or mammalian cells).

Vector DNA can be introduced into prokaryotic or eukaryotic cells via conventional transformation or transfection techniques. As used herein, the terms "transformation" and "transfection" are intended to refer to a variety of art-recognized techniques for introducing foreign nucleic acid into a host cell, including calcium phosphate or calcium chloride co-precipitation, DEAE-dextran-mediated transfection,

lipofection, or electroporation. Suitable methods for transforming or transfecting host cells can be found in Sambrook, et al. (*supra*), and other laboratory manuals.

For stable transfection of mammalian cells, it is known that, depending upon the expression vector and transfection technique used, only a small fraction of cells may integrate the foreign DNA into their genome. In order to identify and select these integrants, a gene that encodes a selectable marker (e.g., for resistance to antibiotics) is generally introduced into the host cells along with the gene of interest. Preferred selectable markers include those which confer resistance to drugs, such as G418, hygromycin and methotrexate. Cells stably transfected with the introduced nucleic acid can be identified by drug selection (e.g., cells that have incorporated the selectable marker gene will survive, while the other cells die).

A host cell of the invention, such as a prokaryotic or eukaryotic host cell in culture, can be used to produce a polypeptide of the invention. Accordingly, the invention further provides methods for producing a polypeptide of the invention using the host cells of the invention. In one embodiment, the method comprises culturing the host cell of invention (into which a recombinant expression vector encoding a polypeptide of the invention has been introduced) in a suitable medium such that the polypeptide is produced. In another embodiment, the method further comprises isolating the polypeptide from the medium or the host cell.

The host cells of the invention can also be used to produce nonhuman transgenic animals. For example, in one embodiment, a host cell of the invention is a fertilized oocyte or an embryonic stem cell into which a sequences encoding a polypeptide of the invention have been introduced. Such host cells can then be used to create non-human transgenic animals in which exogenous sequences encoding a polypeptide of the invention have been introduced into their genome or homologous recombinant animals in which endogenous encoding a polypeptide of the invention sequences have been altered. Such animals are useful for studying the function and/or activity of the polypeptide and for identifying and/or evaluating modulators of polypeptide activity. As used herein, a "transgenic animal" is a non-human animal, preferably a mammal, more preferably a rodent such as a rat or mouse, in which one or

more of the cells of the animal includes a transgene. Other examples of transgenic animals include non-human primates, sheep, dogs, cows, goats, chickens, amphibians, etc. A transgene is exogenous DNA which is integrated into the genome of a cell from which a transgenic animal develops and which remains in the genome of the mature animal, thereby directing the expression of an encoded gene product in one or more cell types or tissues of the transgenic animal. As used herein, an "homologous recombinant animal" is a non-human animal, preferably a mammal, more preferably a mouse, in which an endogenous gene has been altered by homologous recombination between the endogenous gene and an exogenous DNA molecule introduced into a cell of the animal, e.g., an embryonic cell of the animal, prior to development of the animal.

A transgenic animal of the invention can be created by introducing nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide of the invention (or a homologue thereof) into the male pronuclei of a fertilized oocyte, e.g., by microinjection, retroviral infection, and allowing the oocyte to develop in a pseudopregnant female foster animal. Intronic sequences and polyadenylation signals can also be included in the transgene to increase the efficiency of expression of the transgene. A tissue-specific regulatory sequence(s) can be operably linked to the transgene to direct expression of the polypeptide of the invention to particular cells. Methods for generating transgenic animals via embryo manipulation and microinjection, particularly animals such as mice, have become conventional in the art and are described, for example, in U.S. Patent Nos. 4,736,866 and 4,870,009, U.S. Patent No. 4,873,191 and in Hogan, *Manipulating the Mouse Embryo*, (Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y., 1986). Similar methods are used for production of other transgenic animals. A transgenic founder animal can be identified based upon the presence of the transgene in its genome and/or expression of mRNA encoding the transgene in tissues or cells of the animals. A transgenic founder animal can then be used to breed additional animals carrying the transgene. Moreover, transgenic animals carrying the transgene can further be bred to other transgenic animals carrying other transgenes.

To create an homologous recombinant animal, a vector is prepared which contains at least a portion of a gene encoding a polypeptide of the invention into

which a deletion, addition or substitution has been introduced to thereby alter, e.g., functionally disrupt, the gene. In a preferred embodiment, the vector is designed such that, upon homologous recombination, the endogenous gene is functionally disrupted (i.e., no longer encodes a functional protein; also referred to as a "knock out" vector). Alternatively, the vector can be designed such that, upon homologous recombination, the endogenous gene is mutated or otherwise altered but still encodes functional protein (e.g., the upstream regulatory region can be altered to thereby alter the expression of the endogenous protein). In the homologous recombination vector, the altered portion of the gene is flanked at its 5' and 3' ends by additional nucleic acid of the gene to allow for homologous recombination to occur between the exogenous gene carried by the vector and an endogenous gene in an embryonic stem cell. The additional flanking nucleic acid sequences are of sufficient length for successful homologous recombination with the endogenous gene. Typically, several kilobases of flanking DNA (both at the 5' and 3' ends) are included in the vector (*see, e.g.,* Thomas and Capecchi (1987) *Cell* 51:503 for a description of homologous recombination vectors). The vector is introduced into an embryonic stem cell line (e.g., by electroporation) and cells in which the introduced gene has homologously recombined with the endogenous gene are selected (*see, e.g.,* Li et al. (1992) *Cell* 69:915). The selected cells are then injected into a blastocyst of an animal (e.g., a mouse) to form aggregation chimeras (*see, e.g.,* Bradley in *Teratocarcinomas and Embryonic Stem Cells: A Practical Approach*, Robertson, ed. (IRL, Oxford, 1987) pp. 113-152). A chimeric embryo can then be implanted into a suitable pseudopregnant female foster animal and the embryo brought to term. Progeny harboring the homologously recombined DNA in their germ cells can be used to breed animals in which all cells of the animal contain the homologously recombined DNA by germline transmission of the transgene. Methods for constructing homologous recombination vectors and homologous recombinant animals are described further in Bradley (1991) *Current Opinion in Bio/Technology* 2:823-829 and in PCT Publication NOS. WO 90/11354, WO 91/01140, WO 92/0968, and WO 93/04169.

In another embodiment, transgenic non-human animals can be produced which contain selected systems which allow for regulated expression of the transgene. One example of such a system is the *cre/loxP* recombinase system of bacteriophage P1. For a description of the *cre/loxP* recombinase system, see, e.g., Lakso et al. (1992) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 89:6232-6236. Another example of a recombinase system is the FLP recombinase system of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* (O'Gorman et al. (1991) *Science* 251:1351-1355. If a *cre/loxP* recombinase system is used to regulate expression of the transgene, animals containing transgenes encoding both the *Cre* recombinase and a selected protein are required. Such animals can be provided through the construction of "double" transgenic animals, e.g., by mating two transgenic animals, one containing a transgene encoding a selected protein and the other containing a transgene encoding a recombinase.

Clones of the non-human transgenic animals described herein can also be produced according to the methods described in Wilmot et al. (1997) *Nature* 385:810-813 and PCT Publication NOS. WO 97/07668 and WO 97/07669.

IV. Pharmaceutical Compositions

The nucleic acid molecules, polypeptides, and antibodies (also referred to herein as "active compounds") of the invention can be incorporated into pharmaceutical compositions suitable for administration. Such compositions typically comprise the nucleic acid molecule, protein, or antibody and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. As used herein the language "pharmaceutically acceptable carrier" is intended to include any and all solvents, dispersion media, coatings, antibacterial and antifungal agents, isotonic and absorption delaying agents, and the like, compatible with pharmaceutical administration. The use of such media and agents for pharmaceutically active substances is well known in the art. Except insofar as any conventional media or agent is incompatible with the active compound, use thereof in the compositions is contemplated. Supplementary active compounds can also be incorporated into the compositions.

5 The invention includes methods for preparing pharmaceutical compositions for modulating the expression or activity of a polypeptide or nucleic acid of the invention. Such methods comprise formulating a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier with an agent which modulates expression or activity of a polypeptide or nucleic acid of the invention. Such compositions can further include additional active agents. Thus, the invention further includes methods for preparing a pharmaceutical composition by formulating a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier with an agent which modulates expression or activity of a polypeptide or nucleic acid of the invention and one or more additional active compounds.

10 The agent which modulates expression or activity can, for example, be a small molecule other than a nucleic acid, polypeptide, or antibody of the invention. For example, such small molecules include peptides, peptidomimetics, amino acids, amino acid analogs, polynucleotides, polynucleotide analogs, nucleotides, nucleotide analogs, organic or inorganic compounds (i.e. including heteroorganic and organometallic compounds) having a molecular weight less than about 10,000 grams per mole, organic or inorganic compounds having a molecular weight less than about 5,000 grams per mole, organic or inorganic compounds having a molecular weight less than about 1,000 grams per mole, organic or inorganic compounds having a molecular weight less than about 500 grams per mole, and salts, esters, and other pharmaceutically acceptable forms of such compounds.

20 It is understood that appropriate doses of small molecule agents and protein or polypeptide agents depends upon a number of factors within the ken of the ordinarily skilled physician, veterinarian, or researcher. The dose(s) of these agents will vary, for example, depending upon the identity, size, and condition of the subject or sample being treated, further depending upon the route by which the composition is to be administered, if applicable, and the effect which the practitioner desires the agent to have upon the nucleic acid or polypeptide of the invention. Exemplary doses of a small molecule include milligram or microgram amounts per kilogram of subject or sample weight (e.g. about 1 microgram per kilogram to about 500 milligrams per kilogram, about 100 micrograms per kilogram to about 5 milligrams per kilogram, or

about 1 microgram per kilogram to about 50 micrograms per kilogram). Exemplary doses of a protein or polypeptide include gram, milligram or microgram amounts per kilogram of subject or sample weight (e.g. about 1 microgram per kilogram to about 5 grams per kilogram, about 100 micrograms per kilogram to about 500 milligrams per kilogram, or about 1 milligram per kilogram to about 50 milligrams per kilogram). It is furthermore understood that appropriate doses of one of these agents depend upon the potency of the agent with respect to the expression or activity to be modulated. Such appropriate doses can be determined using the assays described herein. When one or more of these agents is to be administered to an animal (e.g. a human) in order to modulate expression or activity of a polypeptide or nucleic acid of the invention, a physician, veterinarian, or researcher can, for example, prescribe a relatively low dose at first, subsequently increasing the dose until an appropriate response is obtained. In addition, it is understood that the specific dose level for any particular animal subject will depend upon a variety of factors including the activity of the specific agent employed, the age, body weight, general health, gender, and diet of the subject, the time of administration, the route of administration, the rate of excretion, any drug combination, and the degree of expression or activity to be modulated.

A pharmaceutical composition of the invention is formulated to be compatible with its intended route of administration. Examples of routes of administration include parenteral, e.g., intravenous, intradermal, subcutaneous, oral (e.g., inhalation), transdermal (topical), transmucosal, and rectal administration. Solutions or suspensions used for parenteral, intradermal, or subcutaneous application can include the following components: a sterile diluent such as water for injection, saline solution, fixed oils, polyethylene glycols, glycerine, propylene glycol or other synthetic solvents; antibacterial agents such as benzyl alcohol or methyl parabens; antioxidants such as ascorbic acid or sodium bisulfite; chelating agents such as ethylenediamine-tetraacetic acid; buffers such as acetates, citrates or phosphates and agents for the adjustment of tonicity such as sodium chloride or dextrose. pH can be adjusted with acids or bases, such as hydrochloric acid or sodium hydroxide. The

parenteral preparation can be enclosed in ampules, disposable syringes or multiple dose vials made of glass or plastic.

Pharmaceutical compositions suitable for injectable use include sterile aqueous solutions (where water soluble) or dispersions and sterile powders for the extemporaneous preparation of sterile injectable solutions or dispersions. For intravenous administration, suitable carriers include physiological saline, bacteriostatic water, Cremophor EL (BASF; Parsippany, NJ) or phosphate buffered saline (PBS). In all cases, the composition must be sterile and should be fluid to the extent that easy syringability exists. It must be stable under the conditions of manufacture and storage and must be preserved against the contaminating action of microorganisms such as bacteria and fungi. The carrier can be a solvent or dispersion medium containing, for example, water, ethanol, polyol (for example, glycerol, propylene glycol, and liquid polyethylene glycol, and the like), and suitable mixtures thereof. The proper fluidity can be maintained, for example, by the use of a coating such as lecithin, by the maintenance of the required particle size in the case of dispersion and by the use of surfactants. Prevention of the action of microorganisms can be achieved by various antibacterial and antifungal agents, for example, parabens, chlorobutanol, phenol, ascorbic acid, thimerosal, and the like. In many cases, it will be preferable to include isotonic agents, for example, sugars, polyalcohols such as mannitol, sorbitol, or sodium chloride in the composition. Prolonged absorption of the injectable compositions can be brought about by including in the composition an agent which delays absorption, for example, aluminum monostearate and gelatin.

Sterile injectable solutions can be prepared by incorporating the active compound (e.g., a polypeptide or antibody) in the required amount in an appropriate solvent with one or a combination of ingredients enumerated above, as required, followed by filtered sterilization. Generally, dispersions are prepared by incorporating the active compound into a sterile vehicle which contains a basic dispersion medium, and then incorporating the required other ingredients from those enumerated above. In the case of sterile powders for the preparation of sterile injectable solutions, the preferred methods of preparation are vacuum drying and freeze-drying which yields a

powder of the active ingredient plus any additional desired ingredient from a previously sterile-filtered solution thereof.

Oral compositions generally include an inert diluent or an edible carrier. They can be enclosed in gelatin capsules or compressed into tablets. For the purpose of oral therapeutic administration, the active compound can be incorporated with excipients and used in the form of tablets, troches, or capsules. Oral compositions can also be prepared using a fluid carrier for use as a mouthwash, wherein the compound in the fluid carrier is applied orally and swished and expectorated or swallowed.

Pharmaceutically compatible binding agents, and/or adjuvant materials can be included as part of the composition. The tablets, pills, capsules, troches, and the like can contain any of the following ingredients, or compounds of a similar nature: a binder such as microcrystalline cellulose, gum tragacanth or gelatin; an excipient such as starch or lactose, a disintegrating agent such as alginic acid, Primogel, or corn starch; a lubricant such as magnesium stearate or Sterotes; a glidant such as colloidal silicon dioxide; a sweetening agent such as sucrose or saccharin; or a flavoring agent such as peppermint, methyl salicylate, or orange flavoring.

For administration by inhalation, the compounds are delivered in the form of an aerosol spray from a pressurized container or dispenser which contains a suitable propellant, e.g., a gas such as carbon dioxide, or a nebulizer.

Systemic administration can also be by transmucosal or transdermal means. For transmucosal or transdermal administration, penetrants appropriate to the barrier to be permeated are used in the formulation. Such penetrants are generally known in the art, and include, for example, for transmucosal administration, detergents, bile salts, and fusidic acid derivatives. Transmucosal administration can be accomplished through the use of nasal sprays or suppositories. For transdermal administration, the active compounds are formulated into ointments, salves, gels, or creams as generally known in the art.

The compounds can also be prepared in the form of suppositories (e.g., with conventional suppository bases such as cocoa butter and other glycerides) or retention enemas for rectal delivery.

In one embodiment, the active compounds are prepared with carriers that will protect the compound against rapid elimination from the body, such as a controlled release formulation, including implants and microencapsulated delivery systems. Biodegradable, biocompatible polymers can be used, such as ethylene vinyl acetate, polyanhydrides, polyglycolic acid, collagen, polyorthoesters, and polylactic acid. Methods for preparation of such formulations will be apparent to those skilled in the art. The materials can also be obtained commercially from Alza Corporation and Nova Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Liposomal suspensions (including liposomes having monoclonal antibodies incorporated therein or thereon) can also be used as pharmaceutically acceptable carriers. These can be prepared according to methods known to those skilled in the art, for example, as described in U.S. Patent No. 4,522,811.

It is especially advantageous to formulate oral or parenteral compositions in dosage unit form for ease of administration and uniformity of dosage. Dosage unit form as used herein refers to physically discrete units suited as unitary dosages for the subject to be treated; each unit containing a predetermined quantity of active compound calculated to produce the desired therapeutic effect in association with the required pharmaceutical carrier. The specification for the dosage unit forms of the invention are dictated by and directly dependent on the unique characteristics of the active compound and the particular therapeutic effect to be achieved, and the limitations inherent in the art of compounding such an active compound for the treatment of individuals.

For antibodies, the preferred dosage is 0.1 mg/kg to 100 mg/kg of body weight (generally 10 mg/kg to 20 mg/kg). If the antibody is to act in the brain, a dosage of 50 mg/kg to 100 mg/kg is usually appropriate. Generally, partially human antibodies and fully human antibodies have a longer half-life within the human body than other antibodies. Accordingly, lower dosages and less frequent administration is often possible. Modifications such as lipidation can be used to stabilize antibodies and to enhance uptake and tissue penetration (e.g., into the brain). A method for lipidation of

antibodies is described by Cruikshank et al. ((1997) *J. Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes and Human Retrovirology* 14:193).

The nucleic acid molecules of the invention can be inserted into vectors and used as gene therapy vectors. Gene therapy vectors can be delivered to a subject by, for example, intravenous injection, local administration (U.S. Patent 5,328,470), or by stereotactic injection (*see, e.g.*, Chen et al. (1994) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 91:3054-3057). The pharmaceutical preparation of the gene therapy vector can include the gene therapy vector in an acceptable diluent, or can comprise a slow release matrix in which the gene delivery vehicle is imbedded. Alternatively, where the complete gene delivery vector can be produced intact from recombinant cells, e.g. retroviral vectors, the pharmaceutical preparation can include one or more cells which produce the gene delivery system.

The pharmaceutical compositions can be included in a container, pack, or dispenser together with instructions for administration.

V. Uses and Methods of the Invention

The nucleic acid molecules, proteins, protein homologs, and antibodies described herein can be used in one or more of the following methods: a) screening assays; b) detection assays (e.g., chromosomal mapping, tissue typing, forensic biology); c) predictive medicine (e.g., diagnostic assays, prognostic assays, monitoring clinical trials, and pharmacogenomics); and d) methods of treatment (e.g., therapeutic and prophylactic). For example, polypeptides of the invention can be used for all of the purposes identified herein in portions of the disclosure relating to individual types of protein of the invention (e.g. TANGO 202 proteins, TANGO 234 proteins, TANGO 265 proteins, TANGO 273 proteins, TANGO 286 proteins, TANGO 294 proteins, and INTERCEPT 296 proteins). The isolated nucleic acid molecules of the invention can be used to express proteins (e.g., via a recombinant expression vector in a host cell in gene therapy applications), to detect mRNA (e.g., in a biological sample) or a genetic lesion, and to modulate activity of a polypeptide of the invention. In addition, the polypeptides of the invention can be used to screen drugs or compounds which

modulate activity or expression of a polypeptide of the invention as well as to treat disorders characterized by insufficient or excessive production of a protein of the invention or production of a form of a protein of the invention which has decreased or aberrant activity compared to the wild type protein. In addition, the antibodies of the invention can be used to detect and isolate a protein of the and modulate activity of a protein of the invention.

This invention further pertains to novel agents identified by the above-described screening assays and uses thereof for treatments as described herein.

A. Screening Assays

The invention provides a method (also referred to herein as a "screening assay") for identifying modulators, i.e., candidate or test compounds or agents (e.g., peptides, peptidomimetics, small molecules or other drugs) which bind to polypeptide of the invention or have a stimulatory or inhibitory effect on, for example, expression or activity of a polypeptide of the invention.

In one embodiment, the invention provides assays for screening candidate or test compounds which bind to or modulate the activity of the membrane-bound form of a polypeptide of the invention or biologically active portion thereof. The test compounds of the present invention can be obtained using any of the numerous approaches in combinatorial library methods known in the art, including: biological libraries; spatially addressable parallel solid phase or solution phase libraries; synthetic library methods requiring deconvolution; the "one-bead one-compound" library method; and synthetic library methods using affinity chromatography selection. The biological library approach is limited to peptide libraries, while the other four approaches are applicable to peptide, non-peptide oligomer or small molecule libraries of compounds (Lam (1997) *Anticancer Drug Des.* 12:145).

Examples of methods for the synthesis of molecular libraries can be found in the art, for example in: DeWitt et al. (1993) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 90:6909; Erb et al. (1994) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 91:11422; Zuckermann et al.

(1994). *J. Med. Chem.* 37:2678; Cho et al. (1993) *Science* 261:1303; Carrell et al. (1994) *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl.* 33:2059; Carell et al. (1994) *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl.* 33:2061; and Gallop et al. (1994) *J. Med. Chem.* 37:1233.

Libraries of compounds can be presented in solution (e.g., Houghten (1992) *Bio/Techniques* 13:412-421), or on beads (Lam (1991) *Nature* 354:82-84), chips (Fodor (1993) *Nature* 364:555-556), bacteria (U.S. Patent No. 5,223,409), spores (Patent NOS. 5,571,698; 5,403,484; and 5,223,409), plasmids (Cull et al. (1992) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 89:1865-1869) or phage (Scott and Smith (1990) *Science* 249:386-390; Devlin (1990) *Science* 249:404-406; Cwirla et al. (1990) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 87:6378-6382; and Felici (1991) *J. Mol. Biol.* 222:301-310).

In one embodiment, an assay is a cell-based assay in which a cell which expresses a membrane-bound form of a polypeptide of the invention, or a biologically active portion thereof, on the cell surface is contacted with a test compound and the ability of the test compound to bind to the polypeptide determined. The cell, for example, can be a yeast cell or a cell of mammalian origin. Determining the ability of the test compound to bind to the polypeptide can be accomplished, for example, by coupling the test compound with a radioisotope or enzymatic label such that binding of the test compound to the polypeptide or biologically active portion thereof can be determined by detecting the labeled compound in a complex. For example, test compounds can be labeled with ^{125}I , ^{35}S , ^{14}C , or ^3H , either directly or indirectly, and the radioisotope detected by direct counting of radio-emission or by scintillation counting. Alternatively, test compounds can be enzymatically labeled with, for example, horseradish peroxidase, alkaline phosphatase, or luciferase, and the enzymatic label detected by determination of conversion of an appropriate substrate to product. In a preferred embodiment, the assay comprises contacting a cell which expresses a membrane-bound form of a polypeptide of the invention, or a biologically active portion thereof, on the cell surface with a known compound which binds the polypeptide to form an assay mixture, contacting the assay mixture with a test compound, and determining the ability of the test compound to interact with the

polypeptide, wherein determining the ability of the test compound to interact with the polypeptide comprises determining the ability of the test compound to preferentially bind to the polypeptide or a biologically active portion thereof as compared to the known compound.

5 In another embodiment, the assay involves assessment of an activity characteristic of the polypeptide, wherein binding of the test compound with the polypeptide or a biologically active portion thereof alters (i.e. increases or decreases) the activity of the polypeptide.

10 In another embodiment, an assay is a cell-based assay comprising contacting a cell expressing a membrane-bound form of a polypeptide of the invention, or a biologically active portion thereof, on the cell surface with a test compound and determining the ability of the test compound to modulate (e.g., stimulate or inhibit) the activity of the polypeptide or biologically active portion thereof. Determining the ability of the test compound to modulate the activity of the polypeptide or a
15 biologically active portion thereof can be accomplished, for example, by determining the ability of the polypeptide to bind to or interact with a target molecule or to transport molecules across the cytoplasmic membrane.

Determining the ability of a polypeptide of the invention to bind to or interact with a target molecule can be accomplished by one of the methods described
20 above for determining direct binding. As used herein, a "target molecule" is a molecule with which a selected polypeptide (e.g., a polypeptide of the invention binds or interacts with in nature, for example, a molecule on the surface of a cell which expresses the selected protein, a molecule on the surface of a second cell, a molecule in the extracellular milieu, a molecule associated with the internal surface of a cell
25 membrane or a cytoplasmic molecule. A target molecule can be a polypeptide of the invention or some other polypeptide or protein. For example, a target molecule can be a component of a signal transduction pathway which facilitates transduction of an extracellular signal (e.g., a signal generated by binding of a compound to a polypeptide of the invention) through the cell membrane and into the cell or a second intercellular

protein which has catalytic activity or a protein which facilitates the association of downstream signaling molecules with a polypeptide of the invention. Determining the ability of a polypeptide of the invention to bind to or interact with a target molecule can be accomplished by determining the activity of the target molecule. For example, the activity of the target molecule can be determined by detecting induction of a cellular second messenger of the target (e.g., an mRNA, intracellular Ca^{2+} , diacylglycerol, IP3, and the like), detecting catalytic/enzymatic activity of the target on an appropriate substrate, detecting the induction of a reporter gene (e.g., a regulatory element that is responsive to a polypeptide of the invention operably linked to a nucleic acid encoding a detectable marker, e.g. luciferase), or detecting a cellular response, for example, cellular differentiation, or cell proliferation.

In yet another embodiment, an assay of the present invention is a cell-free assay comprising contacting a polypeptide of the invention or biologically active portion thereof with a test compound and determining the ability of the test compound to bind to the polypeptide or biologically active portion thereof. Binding of the test compound to the polypeptide can be determined either directly or indirectly as described above. In a preferred embodiment, the assay includes contacting the polypeptide of the invention or biologically active portion thereof with a known compound which binds the polypeptide to form an assay mixture, contacting the assay mixture with a test compound, and determining the ability of the test compound to interact with the polypeptide, wherein determining the ability of the test compound to interact with the polypeptide comprises determining the ability of the test compound to preferentially bind to the polypeptide or biologically active portion thereof as compared to the known compound.

In another embodiment, an assay is a cell-free assay comprising contacting a polypeptide of the invention or biologically active portion thereof with a test compound and determining the ability of the test compound to modulate (e.g., stimulate or inhibit) the activity of the polypeptide or biologically active portion thereof. Determining the ability of the test compound to modulate the activity of the

polypeptide can be accomplished, for example, by determining the ability of the polypeptide to bind to a target molecule by one of the methods described above for determining direct binding. In an alternative embodiment, determining the ability of the test compound to modulate the activity of the polypeptide can be accomplished by determining the ability of the polypeptide of the invention to further modulate the target molecule. For example, the catalytic activity, the enzymatic activity, or both, of the target molecule on an appropriate substrate can be determined as previously described.

In yet another embodiment, the cell-free assay comprises contacting a polypeptide of the invention or biologically active portion thereof with a known compound which binds the polypeptide to form an assay mixture, contacting the assay mixture with a test compound, and determining the ability of the test compound to interact with the polypeptide, wherein determining the ability of the test compound to interact with the polypeptide comprises determining the ability of the polypeptide to preferentially bind to or modulate the activity of a target molecule.

The cell-free assays of the present invention are amenable to use of both a soluble form or the membrane-bound form of a polypeptide of the invention. In the case of cell-free assays comprising the membrane-bound form of the polypeptide, it can be desirable to utilize a solubilizing agent such that the membrane-bound form of the polypeptide is maintained in solution. Examples of such solubilizing agents include non-ionic detergents such as n-octylglucoside, n-dodecylglucoside, n-octylmaltoside, octanoyl-N-methylglucamide, decanoyl-N-methylglucamide, Triton X-100, Triton X-114, Thesit, Isotridecypoly(ethylene glycol ether)_n, 3-[(3-cholamidopropyl)dimethylamminio]-1-propane sulfonate (CHAPS), 3-[(3-cholamidopropyl)dimethylamminio]-2-hydroxy-1-propane sulfonate (CHAPSO), or N-dodecyl-N,N-dimethyl-3-ammonio-1-propane sulfonate.

In one or more embodiments of the above assay methods of the present invention, it can be desirable to immobilize either the polypeptide of the invention or its target molecule to facilitate separation of complexed from non-complexed forms of

one or both of the proteins, as well as to accommodate automation of the assay. Binding of a test compound to the polypeptide, or interaction of the polypeptide with a target molecule in the presence and absence of a candidate compound, can be accomplished in any vessel suitable for containing the reactants. Examples of such vessels include microtiter plates, test tubes, and micro-centrifuge tubes. In one embodiment, a fusion protein can be provided which adds a domain that allows one or both of the proteins to be bound to a matrix. For example, glutathione-S-transferase fusion proteins or glutathione-S-transferase fusion proteins can be adsorbed onto glutathione Sepharose beads (Sigma Chemical; St. Louis, MO) or glutathione derivatized microtiter plates, which are then combined with the test compound or the test compound and either the non-adsorbed target protein or A polypeptide of the invention, and the mixture incubated under conditions conducive to complex formation (e.g., at physiological conditions for salt and pH). Following incubation, the beads or microtiter plate wells are washed to remove any unbound components and complex formation is measured either directly or indirectly, for example, as described above. Alternatively, the complexes can be dissociated from the matrix, and the level of binding or activity of the polypeptide of the invention can be determined using standard techniques.

Other techniques for immobilizing proteins on matrices can also be used in the screening assays of the invention. For example, either the polypeptide of the invention or its target molecule can be immobilized utilizing conjugation of biotin and streptavidin. Biotinylated polypeptide of the invention or target molecules can be prepared from biotin-NHS (N-hydroxy-succinimide) using techniques well known in the art (e.g., biotinylation kit, Pierce Chemicals; Rockford, IL), and immobilized in the wells of streptavidin-coated 96 well plates (Pierce Chemical). Alternatively, antibodies reactive with the polypeptide of the invention or target molecules but which do not interfere with binding of the polypeptide of the invention to its target molecule can be derivatized to the wells of the plate, and unbound target or polypeptide of the invention trapped in the wells by antibody conjugation. Methods for detecting such complexes,

in addition to those described above for the GST-immobilized complexes, include immunodetection of complexes using antibodies reactive with the polypeptide of the invention or target molecule, as well as enzyme-linked assays which rely on detecting an enzymatic activity associated with the polypeptide of the invention or target molecule.

In another embodiment, modulators of expression of a polypeptide of the invention are identified in a method in which a cell is contacted with a candidate compound and the expression of the selected mRNA or protein (i.e., the mRNA or protein corresponding to a polypeptide or nucleic acid of the invention) in the cell is determined. The level of expression of the selected mRNA or protein in the presence of the candidate compound is compared to the level of expression of the selected mRNA or protein in the absence of the candidate compound. The candidate compound can then be identified as a modulator of expression of the polypeptide of the invention based on this comparison. For example, when expression of the selected mRNA or protein is greater (i.e. statistically significantly greater) in the presence of the candidate compound than in its absence, the candidate compound is identified as a stimulator of the selected mRNA or protein expression. Alternatively, when expression of the selected mRNA or protein is less (i.e. statistically significantly less) in the presence of the candidate compound than in its absence, the candidate compound is identified as an inhibitor of the selected mRNA or protein expression. The level of the selected mRNA or protein expression in the cells can be determined by methods described herein.

In yet another aspect of the invention, a polypeptide of the inventions can be used as "bait proteins" in a two-hybrid assay or three hybrid assay (*see, e.g.*, U.S. Patent No. 5,283,317; Zervos et al. (1993) *Cell* 72:223-232; Madura et al. (1993) *J. Biol. Chem.* 268:12046-12054; Bartel et al. (1993) *Bio/Techniques* 14:920-924; Iwabuchi et al. (1993) *Oncogene* 8:1693-1696; and PCT Publication No. WO 94/10300), to identify other proteins, which bind to or interact with the polypeptide of the invention and modulate activity of the polypeptide of the invention. Such binding proteins are also likely to be involved in the propagation of signals by the polypeptide

of the inventions as, for example, upstream or downstream elements of a signaling pathway involving the polypeptide of the invention.

This invention further pertains to novel agents identified by the above-described screening assays and uses thereof for treatments as described herein.

5

B. Detection Assays

Portions or fragments of the cDNA sequences identified herein (and the corresponding complete gene sequences) can be used in numerous ways as polynucleotide reagents. For example, these sequences can be used to: (i) map their respective genes on a chromosome and, thus, locate gene regions associated with genetic disease; (ii) identify an individual from a minute biological sample (tissue typing); and (iii) aid in forensic identification of a biological sample. These applications are described in the subsections below.

10

1. Chromosome Mapping

Once the sequence (or a portion of the sequence) of a gene has been isolated, this sequence can be used to map the location of the gene on a chromosome. Accordingly, nucleic acid molecules described herein or fragments thereof, can be used to map the location of the corresponding genes on a chromosome. The mapping of the sequences to chromosomes is an important first step in correlating these sequences with genes associated with disease.

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Briefly, genes can be mapped to chromosomes by preparing PCR primers (preferably 15-25 bp in length) from the sequence of a gene of the invention. Computer analysis of the sequence of a gene of the invention can be used to rapidly select primers that do not span more than one exon in the genomic DNA, thus complicating the amplification process. These primers can then be used for PCR screening of somatic cell hybrids containing individual human chromosomes. Only those hybrids containing the human gene corresponding to the gene sequences will

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yield an amplified fragment. For a review of this technique, see D'Eustachio et al. ((1983) *Science* 220:919-924).

5 PCR mapping of somatic cell hybrids is a rapid procedure for assigning a particular sequence to a particular chromosome. Three or more sequences can be assigned per day using a single thermal cycler. Using the nucleic acid sequences of the invention to design oligonucleotide primers, sub-localization can be achieved with panels of fragments from specific chromosomes. Other mapping strategies which can similarly be used to map a gene to its chromosome include *in situ* hybridization (described in Fan et al. (1990) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 87:6223-27), pre-screening with labeled flow-sorted chromosomes, and pre-selection by hybridization to chromosome specific cDNA libraries. Fluorescence *in situ* hybridization (FISH) of a DNA sequence to a metaphase chromosomal spread can further be used to provide a precise chromosomal location in one step. For a review of this technique, see Verma et al. (Human Chromosomes: A Manual of Basic Techniques (Pergamon Press, New York, 1988)).

15 Reagents for chromosome mapping can be used individually to mark a single chromosome or a single site on that chromosome, or panels of reagents can be used for marking multiple sites and/or multiple chromosomes. Reagents corresponding to non-coding regions of the genes actually are preferred for mapping purposes. Coding sequences are more likely to be conserved within gene families, thus increasing the chance of cross hybridizations during chromosomal mapping.

20 Once a sequence has been mapped to a precise chromosomal location, the physical position of the sequence on the chromosome can be correlated with genetic map data. (Such data are found, for example, in V. McKusick, Mendelian Inheritance in Man, available on-line through Johns Hopkins University Welch Medical Library). The relationship between genes and disease, mapped to the same chromosomal region, can then be identified through linkage analysis (co-inheritance of physically adjacent genes), described in, e.g., Egeland et al. (1987) *Nature* 325:783-787.

Moreover, differences in the DNA sequences between individuals affected and unaffected with a disease associated with a gene of the invention can be determined. If a mutation is observed in some or all of the affected individuals but not in any unaffected individuals, then the mutation is likely to be the causative agent of the particular disease. Comparison of affected and unaffected individuals generally involves first looking for structural alterations in the chromosomes such as deletions or translocations that are visible from chromosome spreads or detectable using PCR based on that DNA sequence. Ultimately, complete sequencing of genes from several individuals can be performed to confirm the presence of a mutation and to distinguish mutations from polymorphisms.

2. Tissue Typing

The nucleic acid sequences of the present invention can also be used to identify individuals from minute biological samples. The United States military, for example, is considering the use of restriction fragment length polymorphism (RFLP) for identification of its personnel. In this technique, an individual's genomic DNA is digested with one or more restriction enzymes, and probed on a Southern blot to yield unique bands for identification. This method does not suffer from the current limitations of "Dog Tags" which can be lost, switched, or stolen, making positive identification difficult. The sequences of the present invention are useful as additional DNA markers for RFLP (described in U.S. Patent 5,272,057).

Furthermore, the sequences of the present invention can be used to provide an alternative technique which determines the actual base-by-base DNA sequence of selected portions of an individual's genome. Thus, the nucleic acid sequences described herein can be used to prepare two PCR primers from the 5' and 3' ends of the sequences. These primers can then be used to amplify an individual's DNA and subsequently sequence it.

Panels of corresponding DNA sequences from individuals, prepared in this manner, can provide unique individual identifications, as each individual will have

a unique set of such DNA sequences due to allelic differences. The sequences of the present invention can be used to obtain such identification sequences from individuals and from tissue. The nucleic acid sequences of the invention uniquely represent portions of the human genome. Allelic variation occurs to some degree in the coding regions of these sequences, and to a greater degree in the non-coding regions. It is estimated that allelic variation between individual humans occurs with a frequency of about once per each 500 bases. Each of the sequences described herein can, to some degree, be used as a standard against which DNA from an individual can be compared for identification purposes. Because greater numbers of polymorphisms occur in the non-coding regions, fewer sequences are necessary to differentiate individuals. The non-coding sequences of SEQ ID NO: 1, 9, 17, 25, 33, 45, or 53 can comfortably provide positive individual identification with a panel of perhaps 10 to 1,000 primers which each yield a non-coding amplified sequence of 100 bases. If predicted coding sequences, such as those in SEQ ID NO: 2, 10, 18, 26, 34, 46, or 54 are used, a more appropriate number of primers for positive individual identification would be 500-2,000.

If a panel of reagents from the nucleic acid sequences described herein is used to generate a unique identification database for an individual, those same reagents can later be used to identify tissue from that individual. Using the unique identification database, positive identification of the individual, living or dead, can be made from extremely small tissue samples.

3. Use of Partial Gene Sequences in Forensic Biology

DNA-based identification techniques can also be used in forensic biology. Forensic biology is a scientific field employing genetic typing of biological evidence found at a crime scene as a means for positively identifying, for example, a perpetrator of a crime. To make such an identification, PCR technology can be used to amplify DNA sequences taken from very small biological samples such as tissues, e.g., hair or skin, or body fluids, e.g., blood, saliva, or semen found at a crime scene. The

amplified sequence can then be compared to a standard, thereby allowing identification of the origin of the biological sample.

The sequences of the present invention can be used to provide polynucleotide reagents, e.g., PCR primers, targeted to specific loci in the human genome, which can enhance the reliability of DNA-based forensic identifications by, for example, providing another "identification marker" (i.e. another DNA sequence that is unique to a particular individual). As mentioned above, actual base sequence information can be used for identification as an accurate alternative to patterns formed by restriction enzyme generated fragments. Sequences targeted to non-coding regions are particularly appropriate for this use as greater numbers of polymorphisms occur in the non-coding regions, making it easier to differentiate individuals using this technique. Examples of polynucleotide reagents include the nucleic acid sequences of the invention or portions thereof, e.g., fragments derived from non-coding regions having a length of at least 20 or 30 bases.

The nucleic acid sequences described herein can further be used to provide polynucleotide reagents, e.g., labeled or labelable probes which can be used in, for example, an *in situ* hybridization technique, to identify a specific tissue, e.g., brain tissue. This can be very useful in cases where a forensic pathologist is presented with a tissue of unknown origin. Panels of such probes can be used to identify tissue by species and/or by organ type.

C. Predictive Medicine

The present invention also pertains to the field of predictive medicine in which diagnostic assays, prognostic assays, pharmacogenomics, and monitoring clinical trials are used for prognostic (predictive) purposes to thereby treat an individual prophylactically. Accordingly, one aspect of the present invention relates to diagnostic assays for determining expression of a polypeptide or nucleic acid of the invention and/or activity of a polypeptide of the invention, in the context of a biological sample (e.g., blood, serum, cells, tissue) to thereby determine whether an individual is afflicted

with a disease or disorder, or is at risk of developing a disorder, associated with aberrant expression or activity of a polypeptide of the invention. The invention also provides for prognostic (or predictive) assays for determining whether an individual is at risk of developing a disorder associated with aberrant expression or activity of a polypeptide of the invention. For example, mutations in a gene of the invention can be assayed in a biological sample. Such assays can be used for prognostic or predictive purpose to thereby prophylactically treat an individual prior to the onset of a disorder characterized by or associated with aberrant expression or activity of a polypeptide of the invention.

Another aspect of the invention provides methods for expression of a nucleic acid or polypeptide of the invention or activity of a polypeptide of the invention in an individual to thereby select appropriate therapeutic or prophylactic agents for that individual (referred to herein as "pharmacogenomics"). Pharmacogenomics allows for the selection of agents (e.g., drugs) for therapeutic or prophylactic treatment of an individual based on the genotype of the individual (e.g., the genotype of the individual examined to determine the ability of the individual to respond to a particular agent).

Yet another aspect of the invention pertains to monitoring the influence of agents (e.g., drugs or other compounds) on the expression or activity of a polypeptide of the invention in clinical trials. These and other agents are described in further detail in the following sections.

1. Diagnostic Assays

An exemplary method for detecting the presence or absence of a polypeptide or nucleic acid of the invention in a biological sample involves obtaining a biological sample from a test subject and contacting the biological sample with a compound or an agent capable of detecting a polypeptide or nucleic acid (e.g., mRNA, genomic DNA) of the invention such that the presence of a polypeptide or nucleic acid of the invention is detected in the biological sample. A preferred agent for detecting mRNA or genomic DNA encoding a polypeptide of the invention is a labeled nucleic

acid probe capable of hybridizing to mRNA or genomic DNA encoding a polypeptide of the invention. The nucleic acid probe can be, for example, a full-length cDNA, such as the nucleic acid of SEQ ID NO: 1, 9, 17, 25, 33, 45, 53, 67, or 72, or a portion thereof, such as an oligonucleotide of at least 15, 30, 50, 100, 250 or 500 nucleotides in length and sufficient to specifically hybridize under stringent conditions to a mRNA or genomic DNA encoding a polypeptide of the invention. Other suitable probes for use in the diagnostic assays of the invention are described herein.

A preferred agent for detecting a polypeptide of the invention is an antibody capable of binding to a polypeptide of the invention, preferably an antibody with a detectable label. Antibodies can be polyclonal, or more preferably, monoclonal. An intact antibody, or a fragment thereof (e.g., Fab or F(ab')₂) can be used. The term "labeled", with regard to the probe or antibody, is intended to encompass direct labeling of the probe or antibody by coupling (i.e., physically linking) a detectable substance to the probe or antibody, as well as indirect labeling of the probe or antibody by reactivity with another reagent that is directly labeled. Examples of indirect labeling include detection of a primary antibody using a fluorescently labeled secondary antibody and end-labeling of a DNA probe with biotin such that it can be detected with fluorescently labeled streptavidin. The term "biological sample" is intended to include tissues, cells and biological fluids isolated from a subject, as well as tissues, cells and fluids present within a subject. That is, the detection method of the invention can be used to detect mRNA, protein, or genomic DNA in a biological sample *in vitro* as well as *in vivo*. For example, *in vitro* techniques for detection of mRNA include Northern hybridizations and *in situ* hybridizations. *In vitro* techniques for detection of a polypeptide of the invention include enzyme linked immunosorbent assays (ELISAs), Western blots, immunoprecipitations and immunofluorescence. *In vitro* techniques for detection of genomic DNA include Southern hybridizations. Furthermore, *in vivo* techniques for detection of a polypeptide of the invention include introducing into a subject a labeled antibody directed against the polypeptide. For

example, the antibody can be labeled with a radioactive marker whose presence and location in a subject can be detected by standard imaging techniques.

In one embodiment, the biological sample contains protein molecules from the test subject. Alternatively, the biological sample can contain mRNA molecules from the test subject or genomic DNA molecules from the test subject. A preferred biological sample is a peripheral blood leukocyte sample isolated by conventional means from a subject.

In another embodiment, the methods further involve obtaining a control biological sample from a control subject, contacting the control sample with a compound or agent capable of detecting a polypeptide of the invention or mRNA or genomic DNA encoding a polypeptide of the invention, such that the presence of the polypeptide or mRNA or genomic DNA encoding the polypeptide is detected in the biological sample, and comparing the presence of the polypeptide or mRNA or genomic DNA encoding the polypeptide in the control sample with the presence of the polypeptide or mRNA or genomic DNA encoding the polypeptide in the test sample.

The invention also encompasses kits for detecting the presence of a polypeptide or nucleic acid of the invention in a biological sample (a test sample). Such kits can be used to determine if a subject is suffering from or is at increased risk of developing a disorder associated with aberrant expression of a polypeptide of the invention (e.g., one of the disorders described in the section of this disclosure wherein the individual polypeptide of the invention is discussed). For example, the kit can comprise a labeled compound or agent capable of detecting the polypeptide or mRNA encoding the polypeptide in a biological sample and means for determining the amount of the polypeptide or mRNA in the sample (e.g., an antibody which binds the polypeptide or an oligonucleotide probe which binds to DNA or mRNA encoding the polypeptide). Kits can also include instructions for observing that the tested subject is suffering from or is at risk of developing a disorder associated with aberrant expression of the polypeptide if the amount of the polypeptide or mRNA encoding the polypeptide is above or below a normal level.

For antibody-based kits, the kit can comprise, for example: (1) a first antibody (e.g., attached to a solid support) which binds to a polypeptide of the invention; and, optionally, (2) a second, different antibody which binds to either the polypeptide or the first antibody and is conjugated to a detectable agent.

For oligonucleotide-based kits, the kit can comprise, for example: (1) an oligonucleotide, e.g., a detectably labeled oligonucleotide, which hybridizes to a nucleic acid sequence encoding a polypeptide of the invention or (2) a pair of primers useful for amplifying a nucleic acid molecule encoding a polypeptide of the invention. The kit can also comprise, e.g., a buffering agent, a preservative, or a protein stabilizing agent. The kit can also comprise components necessary for detecting the detectable agent (e.g., an enzyme or a substrate). The kit can also contain a control sample or a series of control samples which can be assayed and compared to the test sample contained. Each component of the kit is usually enclosed within an individual container and all of the various containers are within a single package along with instructions for observing whether the tested subject is suffering from or is at risk of developing a disorder associated with aberrant expression of the polypeptide.

2. Prognostic Assays

The methods described herein can furthermore be utilized as diagnostic or prognostic assays to identify subjects having or at risk of developing a disease or disorder associated with aberrant expression or activity of a polypeptide of the invention. For example, the assays described herein, such as the preceding diagnostic assays or the following assays, can be utilized to identify a subject having or at risk of developing a disorder associated with aberrant expression or activity of a polypeptide of the invention (e.g., one of the disorders described in the section of this disclosure wherein the individual polypeptide of the invention is discussed). Alternatively, the prognostic assays can be utilized to identify a subject having or at risk for developing such a disease or disorder. Thus, the present invention provides a method in which a test sample is obtained from a subject and a polypeptide or nucleic acid (e.g., mRNA,

genomic DNA) of the invention is detected, wherein the presence of the polypeptide or nucleic acid is diagnostic for a subject having or at risk of developing a disease or disorder associated with aberrant expression or activity of the polypeptide. As used herein, a "test sample" refers to a biological sample obtained from a subject of interest. For example, a test sample can be a biological fluid (e.g., serum), cell sample, or tissue.

Furthermore, the prognostic assays described herein can be used to determine whether a subject can be administered an agent (e.g., an agonist, antagonist, peptidomimetic, protein, peptide, nucleic acid, small molecule, or other drug candidate) to treat a disease or disorder associated with aberrant expression or activity of a polypeptide of the invention. For example, such methods can be used to determine whether a subject can be effectively treated with a specific agent or class of agents (e.g., agents of a type which decrease activity of the polypeptide). Thus, the present invention provides methods for determining whether a subject can be effectively treated with an agent for a disorder associated with aberrant expression or activity of a polypeptide of the invention in which a test sample is obtained and the polypeptide or nucleic acid encoding the polypeptide is detected (e.g., wherein the presence of the polypeptide or nucleic acid is diagnostic for a subject that can be administered the agent to treat a disorder associated with aberrant expression or activity of the polypeptide).

The methods of the invention can also be used to detect genetic lesions or mutations in a gene of the invention, thereby determining if a subject with the lesioned gene is at risk for a disorder characterized aberrant expression or activity of a polypeptide of the invention. In preferred embodiments, the methods include detecting, in a sample of cells from the subject, the presence or absence of a genetic lesion or mutation characterized by at least one of an alteration affecting the integrity of a gene encoding the polypeptide of the invention, or the mis-expression of the gene encoding the polypeptide of the invention. For example, such genetic lesions or mutations can be detected by ascertaining the existence of at least one of: 1) a deletion of one or more nucleotides from the gene; 2) an addition of one or more nucleotides to

the gene; 3) a substitution of one or more nucleotides of the gene; 4) a chromosomal rearrangement of the gene; 5) an alteration in the level of a messenger RNA transcript of the gene; 6) an aberrant modification of the gene, such as of the methylation pattern of the genomic DNA; 7) the presence of a non-wild type splicing pattern of a messenger RNA transcript of the gene; 8) a non-wild type level of the protein encoded by the gene; 9) an allelic loss of the gene; and 10) an inappropriate post-translational modification of the protein encoded by the gene. As described herein, there are a large number of assay techniques known in the art which can be used for detecting lesions in a gene.

In certain embodiments, detection of the lesion involves the use of a probe/primer in a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) (*see, e.g.*, U.S. Patent Nos. 4,683,195 and 4,683,202), such as anchor PCR or RACE PCR, or, alternatively, in a ligation chain reaction (LCR) (*see, e.g.*, Landegran et al. (1988) *Science* 241:1077-1080; and Nakazawa et al. (1994) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 91:360-364), the latter of which can be particularly useful for detecting point mutations in a gene (*see, e.g.*, Abravaya et al. (1995) *Nucleic Acids Res.* 23:675-682). This method can include the steps of collecting a sample of cells from a patient, isolating nucleic acid (e.g., genomic, mRNA or both) from the cells of the sample, contacting the nucleic acid sample with one or more primers which specifically hybridize to the selected gene under conditions such that hybridization and amplification of the gene (if present) occurs, and detecting the presence or absence of an amplification product, or detecting the size of the amplification product and comparing the length to a control sample. PCR and/or LCR can be desirable to use as a preliminary amplification step in conjunction with any of the techniques used for detecting mutations described herein.

Alternative amplification methods include: self-sustained sequence replication (Guatelli et al. (1990) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 87:1874-1878), transcriptional amplification system (Kwoh, et al. (1989) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 86:1173-1177), Q-Beta Replicase (Lizardi et al. (1988) *Bio/Technology* 6:1197), or any other nucleic acid amplification method, followed by the detection of the amplified

molecules using techniques well known to those of skill in the art. These detection schemes are especially useful for the detection of nucleic acid molecules if such molecules are present in very low numbers.

5 In an alternative embodiment, mutations in a selected gene from a sample cell can be identified by alterations in restriction enzyme cleavage patterns. For example, sample and control DNA is isolated, (optionally) amplified, digested with one or more restriction endonucleases, and fragment length sizes are determined by gel electrophoresis and compared. Differences in fragment length sizes between sample and control DNA indicates mutations in the sample DNA. Moreover, the use of
10 sequence specific ribozymes (*see, e.g.*, U.S. Patent No. 5,498,531) can be used to score for the presence of specific mutations by development or loss of a ribozyme cleavage site.

In other embodiments, genetic mutations can be identified by hybridizing a sample and control nucleic acids, e.g., DNA or RNA, to high density
15 arrays containing hundreds or thousands of oligonucleotides probes (Cronin et al. (1996) *Human Mutation* 7:244-255; Kozal et al. (1996) *Nature Medicine* 2:753-759). For example, genetic mutations can be identified in two-dimensional arrays containing light-generated DNA probes as described in Cronin et al., *supra*. Briefly, a first hybridization array of probes can be used to scan through long stretches of DNA in a
20 sample and control to identify base changes between the sequences by making linear arrays of sequential overlapping probes. This step allows the identification of point mutations. This step is followed by a second hybridization array that allows the characterization of specific mutations by using smaller, specialized probe arrays complementary to all variants or mutations detected. Each mutation array is composed
25 of parallel probe sets, one complementary to the wild-type gene and the other complementary to the mutant gene.

In yet another embodiment, any of a variety of sequencing reactions known in the art can be used to directly sequence the selected gene and detect mutations by comparing the sequence of the sample nucleic acids with the

corresponding wild-type (control) sequence. Examples of sequencing reactions include those based on techniques developed by Maxim and Gilbert ((1977) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 74:560) or Sanger ((1977) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 74:5463). It is also contemplated that any of a variety of automated sequencing procedures can be utilized when performing the diagnostic assays ((1995) *Bio/Techniques* 19:448), including sequencing by mass spectrometry (*see, e.g.*, PCT Publication No. WO 94/16101; Cohen et al. (1996) *Adv. Chromatogr.* 36:127-162; and Griffin et al. (1993) *Appl. Biochem. Biotechnol.* 38:147-159).

Other methods for detecting mutations in a selected gene include methods in which protection from cleavage agents is used to detect mismatched bases in RNA/RNA or RNA/DNA heteroduplexes (Myers et al. (1985) *Science* 230:1242). In general, the technique of mismatch cleavage entails providing heteroduplexes formed by hybridizing (labeled) RNA or DNA containing the wild-type sequence with potentially mutant RNA or DNA obtained from a tissue sample. The double-stranded duplexes are treated with an agent which cleaves single-stranded regions of the duplex such as which will exist due to base pair mismatches between the control and sample strands. RNA/DNA duplexes can be treated with RNASE to digest mismatched regions, and DNA/DNA hybrids can be treated with S1 nuclease to digest mismatched regions.

In other embodiments, either DNA/DNA or RNA/DNA duplexes can be treated with hydroxylamine or osmium tetroxide and with piperidine in order to digest mismatched regions. After digestion of the mismatched regions, the resulting material is then separated by size on denaturing polyacrylamide gels to determine the site of mutation. *See, e.g.*, Cotton et al. (1988) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 85:4397; Saleeba et al. (1992) *Methods Enzymol.* 217:286-295. In a preferred embodiment, the control DNA or RNA can be labeled for detection.

In still another embodiment, the mismatch cleavage reaction employs one or more proteins that recognize mismatched base pairs in double-stranded DNA (so called DNA mismatch repair enzymes) in defined systems for detecting and mapping

point mutations in cDNAs obtained from samples of cells. For example, the mutY enzyme of *E. coli* cleaves A at G/A mismatches and the thymidine DNA glycosylase from HeLa cells cleaves T at G/T mismatches (Hsu et al. (1994) *Carcinogenesis* 15:1657-1662). According to an exemplary embodiment, a probe based on a selected sequence, e.g., a wild-type sequence, is hybridized to a cDNA or other DNA product from a test cell(s). The duplex is treated with a DNA mismatch repair enzyme, and the cleavage products, if any, can be detected from electrophoresis protocols or the like. See, e.g., U.S. Patent No. 5,459,039.

In other embodiments, alterations in electrophoretic mobility will be used to identify mutations in genes. For example, single strand conformation polymorphism (SSCP) can be used to detect differences in electrophoretic mobility between mutant and wild type nucleic acids (Orita et al. (1989) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 86:2766; see also Cotton (1993) *Mutat. Res.* 285:125-144; Hayashi (1992) *Genet. Anal. Tech. Appl.* 9:73-79). Single-stranded DNA fragments of sample and control nucleic acids will be denatured and allowed to renature. The secondary structure of single-stranded nucleic acids varies according to sequence, and the resulting alteration in electrophoretic mobility enables the detection of even a single base change. The DNA fragments can be labeled or detected with labeled probes. The sensitivity of the assay can be enhanced by using RNA (rather than DNA), in which the secondary structure is more sensitive to a change in sequence. In a preferred embodiment, the subject method utilizes heteroduplex analysis to separate double stranded heteroduplex molecules on the basis of changes in electrophoretic mobility (Keen et al. (1991) *Trends Genet.* 7:5).

In yet another embodiment, the movement of mutant or wild-type fragments in polyacrylamide gels containing a gradient of denaturant is assayed using denaturing gradient gel electrophoresis (DGGE) (Myers et al. (1985) *Nature* 313:495). When DGGE is used as the method of analysis, DNA will be modified to insure that it does not completely denature, for example by adding a 'GC clamp' of approximately 40 bp of high-melting GC-rich DNA by PCR. In a further embodiment, a temperature

gradient is used in place of a denaturing gradient to identify differences in the mobility of control and sample DNA (Rosenbaum and Reissner (1987) *Biophys. Chem.* 265:12753).

5 Examples of other techniques for detecting point mutations include, but are not limited to, selective oligonucleotide hybridization, selective amplification, or selective primer extension. For example, oligonucleotide primers can be prepared in which the known mutation is placed centrally and then hybridized to target DNA under conditions which permit hybridization only if a perfect match is found (Saiki et al. (1986) *Nature* 324:163); Saiki et al. (1989) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 86:6230). Such
10 allele specific oligonucleotides are hybridized to PCR amplified target DNA or a number of different mutations when the oligonucleotides are attached to the hybridizing membrane and hybridized with labeled target DNA.

Alternatively, allele specific amplification technology which depends on selective PCR amplification can be used in conjunction with the instant invention.
15 Oligonucleotides used as primers for specific amplification can carry the mutation of interest in the center of the molecule (so that amplification depends on differential hybridization; Gibbs et al. (1989) *Nucleic Acids Res.* 17:2437-2448) or at the extreme 3' end of one primer where, under appropriate conditions, mismatching can prevent or reduce polymerase extension (Prossner (1993) *Tibtech* 11:238). In addition, it can be
20 desirable to introduce a novel restriction site in the region of the mutation to create cleavage-based detection (Gasparini et al. (1992) *Mol. Cell Probes* 6:1). Amplification can also be performed using Taq ligase for amplification (Barany (1991) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 88:189). In such cases, ligation will occur only if there is a perfect match at the 3' end of the 5' sequence making it possible to detect the presence of a
25 known mutation at a specific site by looking for the presence or absence of amplification.

The methods described herein can be performed, for example, using pre-packaged diagnostic kits comprising at least one probe nucleic acid or antibody reagent described herein, which can be conveniently used, e.g., in clinical settings to diagnose

patients exhibiting symptoms or family history of a disease or illness involving a gene encoding a polypeptide of the invention. Furthermore, any cell type or tissue, preferably peripheral blood leukocytes, in which the polypeptide of the invention is expressed can be utilized in the prognostic assays described herein.

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3. Pharmacogenomics

Agents, or modulators which have a stimulatory or inhibitory effect on activity or expression of a polypeptide of the invention as identified by a screening assay described herein can be administered to individuals to treat (prophylactically or therapeutically) disorders associated with aberrant activity of the polypeptide. In conjunction with such treatment, the pharmacogenomics (i.e., the study of the relationship between an individual's genotype and that individual's response to a foreign compound or drug) of the individual may be considered. Differences in metabolism of therapeutics can lead to severe toxicity or therapeutic failure by altering the relation between dose and blood concentration of the pharmacologically active drug. Thus, the pharmacogenomics of the individual permits the selection of effective agents (e.g., drugs) for prophylactic or therapeutic treatments based on a consideration of the individual's genotype. Such pharmacogenomics can further be used to determine appropriate dosages and therapeutic regimens. Accordingly, the activity of a polypeptide of the invention, expression of a nucleic acid of the invention, or mutation content of a gene of the invention in an individual can be determined to thereby select appropriate agent(s) for therapeutic or prophylactic treatment of the individual.

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Pharmacogenomics deals with clinically significant hereditary variations in the response to drugs due to altered drug disposition and abnormal action in affected persons. *See, e.g., Linder (1997) Clin. Chem. 43(2):254-266.* In general, two types of pharmacogenetic conditions can be differentiated. Genetic conditions transmitted as a single factor altering the way drugs act on the body are referred to as "altered drug action." Genetic conditions transmitted as single factors altering the way the body acts on drugs are referred to as "altered drug metabolism". These pharmacogenetic

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conditions can occur either as rare defects or as polymorphisms. For example, glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase (G6PD) deficiency is a common inherited enzymopathy in which the main clinical complication is hemolysis after ingestion of oxidant drugs (anti-malarials, sulfonamides, analgesics, nitrofurans) and consumption of fava beans.

As an illustrative embodiment, the activity of drug metabolizing enzymes is a major determinant of both the intensity and duration of drug action. The discovery of genetic polymorphisms of drug metabolizing enzymes (e.g., N-acetyltransferase 2 (NAT 2) and cytochrome P450 enzymes CYP2D6 and CYP2C19) has provided an explanation as to why some patients do not obtain the expected drug effects or show exaggerated drug response and serious toxicity after taking the standard and safe dose of a drug. These polymorphisms are expressed in two phenotypes in the population, the extensive metabolizer (EM) and poor metabolizer (PM). The prevalence of PM is different among different populations. For example, the gene coding for CYP2D6 is highly polymorphic and several mutations have been identified in PM, which all lead to the absence of functional CYP2D6. Poor metabolizers of CYP2D6 and CYP2C19 quite frequently experience exaggerated drug response and side effects when they receive standard doses. If a metabolite is the active therapeutic moiety, a PM will show no therapeutic response, as demonstrated for the analgesic effect of codeine mediated by its CYP2D6-formed metabolite morphine. The other extreme are the so called ultra-rapid metabolizers who do not respond to standard doses. Recently, the molecular basis of ultra-rapid metabolism has been identified to be due to CYP2D6 gene amplification.

Thus, the activity of a polypeptide of the invention, expression of a nucleic acid encoding the polypeptide, or mutation content of a gene encoding the polypeptide in an individual can be determined to thereby select appropriate agent(s) for therapeutic or prophylactic treatment of the individual. In addition, pharmacogenetic studies can be used to apply genotyping of polymorphic alleles encoding drug-metabolizing enzymes to the identification of an individual's drug responsiveness phenotype. This knowledge, when applied to dosing or drug selection,

can avoid adverse reactions or therapeutic failure and thus enhance therapeutic or prophylactic efficiency when treating a subject with a modulator of activity or expression of the polypeptide, such as a modulator identified by one of the exemplary screening assays described herein.

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4. Monitoring of Effects During Clinical Trials

Monitoring the influence of agents (e.g., drug compounds) on the expression or activity of a polypeptide of the invention (e.g., the ability to modulate aberrant cell proliferation chemotaxis, and/or differentiation) can be applied not only in basic drug screening, but also in clinical trials. For example, the effectiveness of an agent, as determined by a screening assay as described herein, to increase gene expression, protein levels, or protein activity, can be monitored in clinical trials of subjects exhibiting decreased gene expression, protein levels, or protein activity. Alternatively, the effectiveness of an agent, as determined by a screening assay, to decrease gene expression, protein levels or protein activity, can be monitored in clinical trials of subjects exhibiting increased gene expression, protein levels, or protein activity. In such clinical trials, expression or activity of a polypeptide of the invention and preferably, that of other polypeptide that have been implicated in for example, a cellular proliferation disorder, can be used as a marker of the immune responsiveness of a particular cell.

For example, and not by way of limitation, genes, including those of the invention, that are modulated in cells by treatment with an agent (e.g., compound, drug or small molecule) which modulates activity or expression of a polypeptide of the invention (e.g., as identified in a screening assay described herein) can be identified. Thus, to study the effect of agents on cellular proliferation disorders, for example, in a clinical trial, cells can be isolated and RNA prepared and analyzed for the levels of expression of a gene of the invention and other genes implicated in the disorder. The levels of gene expression (i.e., a gene expression pattern) can be quantified by Northern blot analysis or RT-PCR, as described herein, or alternatively by measuring the amount

of protein produced, by one of the methods as described herein, or by measuring the levels of activity of a gene of the invention or other genes. In this way, the gene expression pattern can serve as a marker, indicative of the physiological response of the cells to the agent. Accordingly, this response state can be determined before, and at various points during, treatment of the individual with the agent.

In a preferred embodiment, the present invention provides a method for monitoring the effectiveness of treatment of a subject with an agent (e.g., an agonist, antagonist, peptidomimetic, protein, peptide, nucleic acid, small molecule, or other drug candidate identified by the screening assays described herein) comprising the steps of (i) obtaining a pre-administration sample from a subject prior to administration of the agent; (ii) detecting the level of the polypeptide or nucleic acid of the invention in the pre-administration sample; (iii) obtaining one or more post-administration samples from the subject; (iv) detecting the level of the polypeptide or nucleic acid of the invention in the post-administration samples; (v) comparing the level of the polypeptide or nucleic acid of the invention in the pre-administration sample with the level of the polypeptide or nucleic acid of the invention in the post-administration sample or samples; and (vi) altering the administration of the agent to the subject accordingly. For example, increased administration of the agent can be desirable to increase the expression or activity of the polypeptide to higher levels than detected, i.e., to increase the effectiveness of the agent. Alternatively, decreased administration of the agent can be desirable to decrease expression or activity of the polypeptide to lower levels than detected, i.e., to decrease the effectiveness of the agent.

C. Methods of Treatment

The present invention provides for both prophylactic and therapeutic methods of treating a subject at risk of (or susceptible to) a disorder or having a disorder associated with aberrant expression or activity of a polypeptide of the invention and/or in which the polypeptide of the invention is involved. Disorders

characterized by aberrant expression or activity of the polypeptides of the invention are described elsewhere in this disclosure.

1. Prophylactic Methods

5 In one aspect, the invention provides a method for preventing in a subject, a disease or condition associated with an aberrant expression or activity of a polypeptide of the invention, by administering to the subject an agent which modulates expression or at least one activity of the polypeptide. Subjects at risk for a disease which is caused or contributed to by aberrant expression or activity of a polypeptide of the invention can be identified by, for example, any or a combination of diagnostic or prognostic assays as described herein. Administration of a prophylactic agent can occur prior to the manifestation of symptoms characteristic of the aberrancy, such that a disease or disorder is prevented or, alternatively, delayed in its progression. Depending on the type of aberrancy, for example, an agonist or antagonist agent can be used for treating the subject. The appropriate agent can be determined based on screening assays described herein.

2. Therapeutic Methods

20 Another aspect of the invention pertains to methods of modulating expression or activity of a polypeptide of the invention for therapeutic purposes. The modulatory method of the invention involves contacting a cell with an agent that modulates one or more of the activities of the polypeptide. An agent that modulates activity can be an agent as described herein, such as a nucleic acid or a protein, a naturally-occurring cognate ligand of the polypeptide, a peptide, a peptidomimetic, or other small molecule. In one embodiment, the agent stimulates one or more of the biological activities of the polypeptide. Examples of such stimulatory agents include the active polypeptide of the invention and a nucleic acid molecule encoding the polypeptide of the invention that has been introduced into the cell. In another embodiment, the agent inhibits one or more of the biological activities of the

polypeptide of the invention. Examples of such inhibitory agents include antisense nucleic acid molecules and antibodies. These modulatory methods can be performed *in vitro* (e.g., by culturing the cell with the agent) or, alternatively, *in vivo* (e.g., by administering the agent to a subject). As such, the present invention provides methods of treating an individual afflicted with a disease or disorder characterized by aberrant expression or activity of a polypeptide of the invention. In one embodiment, the method involves administering an agent (e.g., an agent identified by a screening assay described herein), or combination of agents that modulates (e.g., up-regulates or down-regulates) expression or activity. In another embodiment, the method involves administering a polypeptide of the invention or a nucleic acid molecule of the invention as therapy to compensate for reduced or aberrant expression or activity of the polypeptide.

Stimulation of activity is desirable in situations in which activity or expression is abnormally low or down-regulated and/or in which increased activity is likely to have a beneficial effect, e.g., in wound healing. Conversely, inhibition of activity is desirable in situations in which activity or expression is abnormally high or up-regulated and/or in which decreased activity is likely to have a beneficial effect.

The contents of all references, patents, and published patent applications cited throughout this application are hereby incorporated by reference.

Deposits of Clones

Each of these deposits was made merely as a convenience to those of skill in the art. These deposits are not an admission that a deposit is required under U.S.C. §112.

Clone EpT202, encoding human TANGO 202 was deposited with the American Type Culture Collection (ATCC, 10801 University Boulevard, Manassas, VA 20110-2209) on April 21, 1999 and was assigned Accession Number 207219. This deposit will be maintained under the terms of the Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure.

Clone EpTm202, encoding murine TANGO 202 was deposited with

ATCC on April 21, 1999 and was assigned (composite) Accession Number 207221. This deposit will be maintained under the terms of the Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure.

5 Clone EpT234, encoding human TANGO 234 was deposited with ATCC on April 2, 1999 and was assigned Accession Number 207184. This deposit will be maintained under the terms of the Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure.

10 Clone EpT265, encoding human TANGO 265 was deposited with ATCC on April 28, 1999 and was assigned Accession Number 207228. This deposit will be maintained under the terms of the Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure.

15 Clone EpT273, encoding human TANGO 273 was deposited with ATCC on April 2, 1999 and was assigned Accession Number 207185. This deposit will be maintained under the terms of the Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure.

20 Clone EpTm273, encoding murine TANGO 273 was deposited with ATCC on April 2, 1999 and was assigned (composite) Accession Number 207221. This deposit will be maintained under the terms of the Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure.

25 Clone EpT286, encoding human TANGO 286 was deposited with ATCC on April 20, 1999 and was assigned (composite) Accession Number 207220. This deposit will be maintained under the terms of the Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure.

 Clone EpT294, encoding human TANGO 294 was deposited with ATCC on April 20, 1999 and was assigned (composite) Accession Number 207220. This deposit will be maintained under the terms of the Budapest Treaty on the

International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure.

Clone EpT296, encoding human INTERCEPT 296 was deposited with ATCC on April 20, 1999 and was assigned (composite) Accession Number 207220.

This deposit will be maintained under the terms of the Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure.

Clones containing cDNA molecules encoding human TANGO 286, human TANGO 294, and INTERCEPT 296 were deposited with ATCC on April 21, 1999 as Accession Number 207220, as part of a composite deposit representing a mixture of five strains, each carrying one recombinant plasmid harboring a particular cDNA clone.

To distinguish the strains and isolate a strain harboring a particular cDNA clone, an aliquot of the mixture is streaked out to single colonies on nutrient medium (e.g., LB plates) supplemented with 100 mg/ml ampicillin, single colonies are grown, and then plasmid DNA is extracted using a standard miniprep procedure. Next, a sample of the DNA miniprep is digested with a combination of the restriction enzymes *Sall*, *NotI*, and *DraII* and the resulting products are resolved on a 0.8% agarose gel using standard DNA electrophoresis conditions. This digestion procedure liberates fragments as follows:

1. human TANGO 286 (clone EpT286): 1.85 kB and .1 kB (human TANGO 286 has a *DraII* cut site at about bp 1856).

2. human TANGO 294 (clone EpT294): 1.4 kB and .6 kB (human TANGO 294 has a *DraII* cut site at about bp 1447).

3. human INTERCEPT 296 (clone EpT296): .4 kB, 1.6 kB, and .1 kB (human INTERCEPT 296 has *DraII* cut sites at about bp 410 and at about bp 1933).

The identity of the strains can be inferred from the fragments liberated.

Clones containing cDNA molecules encoding mouse TANGO 202 and mouse TANGO 273 were deposited with ATCC on April 21, 1999 and were assigned Accession Number 207221, as part of a composite deposit representing a mixture of five strains, each carrying one recombinant plasmid harboring a particular cDNA clone.

To distinguish the strains and isolate a strain harboring a particular cDNA clone, an aliquot of the mixture is streaked out to single colonies on nutrient medium (e.g., LB plates) supplemented with 100 mg/ml ampicillin, single colonies are grown, and then plasmid DNA is extracted using a standard miniprep procedure. Next, a sample of the DNA miniprep is digested with a combination of the restriction enzymes *Sal* I, *Not* I, and *Apa* I, and the resultant products are resolved on a 0.8% agarose gel using standard DNA electrophoresis conditions. This digestion procedure liberates fragments as follows:

1. mouse TANGO 202 (clone EpTm202): 3.5 kB and 1.4 kB (mouse TANGO 202 has a *Apa* I cut site at about bp 3519).

2. mouse TANGO 273 (clone EpTm273): .3 kB and 2.6 kB (mouse TANGO 273 has a *Apa* I cut site at about bp 298).

The identity of the strains can be inferred from the fragments liberated.

Human TANGO 202, human TANGO 234, human TANGO 265, and human TANGO 273 were each deposited as single deposits. Their clone names, deposit dates, and accession numbers are as follows:

1. human TANGO 202: clone EpT202 was deposited with ATCC on April 21, 1999, and was assigned Accession Number 207219.

2. human TANGO 234: clone EpT234 was deposited with ATCC on April 2, 1999, and was assigned Accession Number 207184.

3. human TANGO 265: clone EpT265 was deposited with ATCC on April 28, 1999, and was assigned Accession Number 207228.

4. human TANGO 273: clone EpT273 was deposited with ATCC on April 2, 1999, and was assigned Accession Number 207185.

Equivalents

Those skilled in the art will recognize, or be able to ascertain using no more than routine experimentation, many equivalents to the specific embodiments of the invention described herein. Such equivalents are intended to be encompassed by the following claims.

What is claimed is:

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